



Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-215
Monday
7 November 1988

Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-88-215

CONTENTS

7 November 1988

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not previously disseminated in electronic form.

CARIBBEAN

Cuba

Envoy to Zaire Cited on Troop Withdrawal [Dakar PANA]	1
Sixth International Havana Fair Opens	1
Castro Visits Fair	1
U.S. 'False Incident' in Panama Condemned	1
Soviet Navy Detachment Members Place Wreaths	2
Kasatonov on Ties, Cooperation	2
Soviet Delegation To GOSR Events Arrives	2
Main Ceremony in Havana	3
Council of State Honors Soviet Specialists	3
Meeting on Electronics, Computers Ends	3
Tugboats Acquired From USSR Arrive in Havana	3
DPRK Group Arrives; To Sign Trade Protocol	3
Scientific Cooperation Accord Signed With Brazil	3
Alternate Representative to UN Appointed	3
Commission To Monitor Nuclear Plant in Holguin	3
'Emergency Situation' in Havana Phone Service	4
* Overemployment, Overqualified Workers Viewed [TRABAJADORES 8 Sep]	5
* Rise in Price Subsidies for Food Products [TRABAJADORES 7 Sep]	6
* Recycled Oil Quotas, Quality Problems Noted [TRABAJADORES 5 Oct]	6
* Oil Workers' Living Conditions Described [TRABAJADORES 14 Sep]	6
* Tourism Statistics for Varadero Detailed [TRABAJADORES 6 Sep]	7

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Measures To Improve News Exchange Discussed	7
---	---

Bahamas

Inspector Charged Under Drug Trafficking Act	8
--	---

Dominica

Prime Minister Charles To Seek Another Term	8
Delegations Arrive for Independence Anniversary	8

Dominican Republic

Reformist Party Political Secretary Resigns	8
Former President Claims Violation of Rights	9

Haiti

Col Paul Dies of Apparent Heart Attack [EFE]	9
Radio Soleil Report	9
Draft Decree Creating Elections Body Issued	9
Further on Draft Decree	10
Opposition Leaders Reject Draft	10

Open Letter to U.S. Congressional Delegation	10
Political Leaders Meet Venezuela's Perez	11
Port-au-Prince Bar Calls for Assembly Session	11
Seven Fort Dimanche Soldiers Discharged	11
Further on Shoot-Out During Search Operation	11

Jamaica

Company Launches New Weekend Newspaper	12
--	----

MEXICO

Editorial Hails De la Madrid Remarks in Cuba [EL NACIONAL 1 Nov]	13
Government Official on Budget Cuts, Economy [UNOMASUNO 30 Oct]	13
Budget Secretariat Releases Public Spending Data [UNOMASUNO 31 Oct]	13
Finance Official Discusses Need for New Loans [THE NEWS 28 Oct]	14
1 Killed, 5 Wounded in FDN-PRI Shoot-Out [UNOMASUNO 1 Nov]	14
Two Killed in Clash Between Labor Unions [EFE]	14
4 Drug Smugglers, 5 Tons of Cocaine Seized	15
Troops in Nogales To Combat Drug Trafficking [THE NEWS 27 Oct]	15
Agreement Signed With Guatemala for Port Complex [UNOMASUNO 2 Nov]	15
Hungarian Legislators Visit, Discuss Cooperation [EL DIA 31 Oct]	15
Morelos II Satellite Aims at Education	16

CENTRAL AMERICA

Costa Rica

500 Nicaraguan Refugees Arrive; Disease Feared [ACAN]	17
---	----

El Salvador

Duarte Comments on UN Human Rights Report [EL MUNDO 5 Nov]	17
Democratic Convergence Begins C.A. Tour [Farabundo Marti]	17
Venceremos Reports on Tour	17
Ungo 'Rules Out War' [ACAN]	18
Honduras Grants Outlet to Atlantic Ocean	18
Public Works Ministry Employees Declare Strike	18
National Police Director on Security Measures	19
Msgr Rosa Chavez Condemns Violence Escalation	19
Recent FMLN Activities, Attacks Reported	20
30 Oct-5 Nov [Farabundo Marti]	20
Two Soldiers Killed [Buenos Aires REUTER]	20
National Guard Attacked [Venceremos]	20
Villa Victoria Raided [DPA]	21
'10 Oct' Operation Carried Out [Venceremos]	21
Sabotage Activity Reported [Venceremos]	21
San Ramon Attacked [Farabundo Marti]	22

Guatemala

New Rebel Front Rejects URNG Protalk Policy [EL GRAFICO 4 Nov]	22
--	----

Honduras

Azcona on Callejas Charges, UN Proposal [TIEMPO 4 Nov]	23
Foreign Minister Explains Peace Proposal to Pope	23
Armed Forces 'Deactivate' Intelligence Battalion	24
Armed Forces Spokesman Claims Border Area 'Calm'	24

Nicaragua

Ortega Speaks on Salvadoran Delegation Visit	24
President Tours Hurricane-Affected Areas [BARRICADA 4 Nov]	25
Praises Continuing Cuban Aid	25
Ortega Sends Message of Support to 'Arafat'	26
New USSR Envoy Says Soviet Aid To Increase	26
Maj Wheelock Refutes Honduran Army Communique	26
Costa Rican Ambassador Returns To Managua [EL NUEVO DIARIO 4 Nov]	28
Georgian USSR Cultural Delegation Arrives	28
* Daily Justifies 'Responsible' Reporting [LA PRENSA 6 Oct]	28
* Work of Territorial Troops Described [BARRICADA 3 Oct]	30

Panama

Palma on Dialogue, Union Leader's Departure	31
FDP Terms U.S. Charges 'Ridiculous,' 'Absurd'	31
Incidents Said 'Invented' [LA REPUBLICA DOMINICAL 6 Nov]	32
Heads of State Send Independence Day Greetings [MATUTINO 4 Nov]	32
Minister on Canal Workers 'Pressuring' Bosses	33
PRD Front Considers Presidential Choice	33
Costa Rican Border Purchases To Resume [MEDIODIA 4 Nov]	33
Spain To Help in Housing Construction	34
Ambassadorial Appointment To Libya Announced [LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 4 Nov]	34

SOUTH AMERICA

Bolivia

1.25-Million-Ton Yield of Coca Paste Possible [EFE]	35
* MNR, MIR, IU Election Strategies Noted	35
* Advantages of IU Cited [EL MUNDO 14 Sep]	35
* End of MNR as Movement [PRESENCIA 18 Sep]	36
* MIR Wants Stable Growth [LA PRESENCIA 18 Sep]	36
Correction to Report on Debt Payment Delay	38

Brazil

Government To Pay URP, Bonus to Employees	38
Sarney: Government To Comply With Social Pact	39
High Command Support Cited [FOLHA DE SAO PAULO 4 Nov]	39
1987 Overdue Foreign Debt Interest Paid	39
Sep Industrial Production Down 1.4 Percent [O GLOBO 5 Nov]	39

Chile

Navy Reshuffles High Command; 9 Officers Retired [Buenos Aires DYN]	39
Pinochet Praises Work of Former Ministers	40
Stange Denies Census 'Political Connotations'	40
Police Official Views Split Within FPMR	41
Detained FPMR Members Held 'Incommunicado'	41
Power Outage Hits Santiago, Central Chile [EFE]	41
Bomb Explosion Kills One in Santiago [EFE]	42
FPMR Claims Blackout; Dead Man Identified [Buenos Aires TELAM]	42
Two Terrorists Reportedly Killed by Own Bomb [Buenos Aires TELAM]	42
Radio Director Released After 8 Days in Jail [EFE]	42
CUT Calls for 30 Nov 'Peaceful Mobilization' [EFE]	42
5 Nov Rally To Demand Pinochet's Resignation [EFE]	43
Communist Newspaper EL SIGLO To Reappear [EFE]	43
PRC Minister Meets Pinochet, Foreign Minister	43
Correction to Report on Army Changes	44

Colombia

Barco Labels All-Out War 'Simplistic Solution' [EFE]	44
Gaviria: Armed Forces Support Peace Proposal	44
Barco Accepts Defense Minister's Resignation [AFP]	44
Resignation Prompts Reshuffle [AFP]	44
* Armed Forces Leader on Dialogue, Peace Plan [EL TIEMPO 7 Oct]	45
Meta Department Councilwoman Wounded in Attack	46
12 Killed in Recent Wave of Violence [AFP]	46
Clandestine Radio Reports 1 Nov Ambush [Radio Patria Libre]	47
Radio Station 'Virtually' Destroyed by Bomb	47
* Policeman Cited on Defense of Puerto Wilches [EL HERALDO 6 Oct]	47
Editorial Derides Group of Eight Meeting [LA PRENSA 31 Oct]	50

Ecuador

Jan-Sep Oil Prices, Exports Announced [EL UNIVERSO 23 Oct]	50
Labor Ministry Recognizes New Labor Union	51

Paraguay

PDC Convention 'Unexpectedly' Authorized [HOY 6 Nov]	51
Police Try To Prevent Medical School 'Ceremony' [HOY 4 Nov]	51

Peru

'Record' Inflation Prompts New Adjustments [EFE]	51
State of Emergency Extended for 60 Days	52
20 'Subversives' Kill 2 Government Workers [Buenos Aires DYN]	52
Police Detain Traffickers, Seize Chemicals	52

Venezuela

Lusinchi, General on Border Incident	52
* COPEI Strength in Polls Seen Weakening [EL NACIONAL 26 Sep]	54
* Air Force Purchases Used Mirage Aircraft [EL DIARIO DE CARACAS 6 Oct]	56
* Economic Deterioration Threatens Middle Class [EL DIARIO DE CARACAS 7 Oct]	56

Cuba

Envoy to Zaire Cited on Troop Withdrawal

AB0311113688 Dakar PANA in French 0940 GMT
3 Nov 88

[Text] Kinshasa, 3 Nov (AZAP/PANA)—There is no question of linking Namibia's independence with the timetable for the withdrawal of the Cuban internationalist troops from Angola, as the two issues are basically different, Cuba's ambassador to Zaire, Sergio Suarez, stated in Kinshasa yesterday. For the Cuban diplomat, who was speaking at the end of a meeting with Nguzi Karl-i-Bond, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, the presence of the Cuban troops in Angola was in response to a sovereign request made by the Luanda government to help preserve its territorial integrity. While expressing the desire to see the negotiations among Angola, Cuba, the United States, and South Africa lead to a solution, the Cuban diplomat reaffirmed that the Cuban contingent should leave Angola as an army that has accomplished its mission, and its withdrawal should be carried out in an orderly manner with all security measures guaranteed.

Sixth International Havana Fair Opens

FL0211034488 Havana Television Service in Spanish
0100 GMT 2 Nov 88

[Text] The Sixth International Havana Fair was inaugurated this afternoon at (Pavexpo). The inauguration ceremony was attended by Antonio Esquivel, vice president of the Council of Ministers, and Ricardo Cabrisas, minister of foreign trade, as well as by other ministers and state leaders.

This trade meeting, which once again is being held in the capital, is attended this time by approximately 400 firms from 23 countries. The total area of the exhibition is 6,543 square meters, which is a larger area than in previous years.

This sixth fair coincides with the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Chamber of Commerce of Cuba, an organization that has great responsibility in the organization and execution of this trade meeting. Numerous protocols and cooperation agreements will result from the meetings between Cuban officials and representatives of the countries in attendance, thus bringing multilateral economic benefits.

The Latin American region is represented by Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Panama, Uruguay, and Venezuela, and for the first time, it also includes Colombia, Costa Rica, and Ecuador. The PRC and Romania are also participating for the first time. Furthermore, the socialist countries—which have not yet reached their full industrial potential—are represented, and this is a small but representative sample of what their economies can now

offer. Finally, we emphasize the extensive participation of representatives from the capitalist area, which highlights the international character of this event.

The Cuban exhibit is broad and is relevant to the nature of this meeting in which we can appreciate the results achieved by our economy in the past few years.

Castro Visits Fair

FL0711161688 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz has visited the Sixth International Havana Fair in which 800 exhibitors from 400 Asian, European, and American firms are participating.

The first secretary of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers toured the facilities and noted the quality and importance of the various products on display. He also chatted with those participating in the event.

Among the pavilions, Cuba's is an example of the progress attained in the exports of our country, in particular the new export lines in the electronics industry, such as computers. Other items also noted are seafood, refrigerators, and products from the paper and nickel industries, among others.

The International Havana Fair constitutes a celebration of commerce and trade among the peoples.

U.S. 'False Incident' in Panama Condemned

PA0511214088 Havana International Service
in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Nov 88

["Our America" commentary read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The U.S. Administration is preparing a whole series of provocative acts in Central America, seeking a pretext to unleash a major conflict in the region. Compounding the disturbing concentration of forces along the strife-torn Nicaraguan-Honduran border, we have a false incident in Panama. There is an attempt to use that incident as a pretext to take military action against that Central American nation.

Not long ago, the Pentagon reported that unidentified persons had attacked guards at Howard Air Force Base, located in the canal area near Panama City. Asked about this matter, Panamanian Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Ritter said this incident, unquestionably, never happened. He added that it was very odd that following the shoot-out, the U.S. Southern Command could not find traces of persons or ammunition. The Panamanian foreign minister explained that the report is part of the U.S. campaign to intimidate the people of his country. Moreover, the incident is used to justify the illegal presence of U.S. helicopters and patrol boats that have been in Panama City's bay since 1 November.

In this context, we may recall another incident in April. A Puerto Rican soldier was shot to death by his own buddies when his signal pistol accidentally went off during a nighttime changing of the guard. Shortly afterward, there was another violent shoot-out among the Marines at Howard Air Force Base who mistook the movement of trees for a purported enemy advance. Ridiculous or dramatic, these incidents are being used to stage a dangerous act of provocation that will justify direct military action against Panama. As a matter of fact, this way the U.S. authorities are trying to eschew their commitment to hand over the Panama Canal. In fact, this goal underlies all the actions taken against Panama. These actions have been unable to crush the will of the Panamanian people, who continue to steadfastly defend their sovereignty and independence.

Soviet Navy Detachment Members Place Wreaths
FL0411191088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1800 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The activities of the Soviet naval detachment paying an official and friendly visit to our country continued today.

This morning, Vice Admiral Igor Vladimirovich Kasatonov, chief of the detachment, together with other chiefs and officers, placed a floral wreath at the foot of the monument containing the remains of Lieutenant General Antonio Maceo and his aide Panchito Gomez Toro. Rear Admiral Pedro Perez Betancourt, vice minister of the FAR and chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Navy, and other chiefs and officers of this branch of the Armed Forces, were also present.

Later, the visitors placed a floral wreath at the foot of the tomb of Blas Roca Calderio. There they expressed interest in learning about the life of this party leader, who turned over the banners of the leadership of the party to our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro at the triumph of the revolution.

Kasatonov on Ties, Cooperation
FL0511022888 Havana Television Service in Spanish
0100 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] The chief of the Soviet naval detachment, Vice Admiral Igor Vladimirovich Kasatonov, today granted a news conference on board the anti-submarine flagship, "Vice Admiral Kulikov."

The special significance of this visit to our country on the eve of the 71st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution was stressed by Kasatonov, who is also first deputy chief of the Northern Fleet. He added that the Soviet people are marking this anniversary amid an atmosphere of special political progress.

The ideas on restructuring are the principal force that have given new drive to creative work in all areas and to the current international situation, said Kasatonov.

His evaluation of the strong bonds of friendship and solidarity that bind us was also very significant, and he indicated that this can be seen in the multilateral cooperation and mutual assistance provided by CEMA-member countries.

The joint work performed by specialists in different socialist construction projects, including the Cosmos, was also an aspect stressed by Kasatonov.

[Begin Kasatonov recording, in Russian with simultaneous Spanish translation] We have an absolute right to be proud of the goals we have reached. The Soviets are pleased with the successes attained by the Cuban people in fulfilling the agreements and resolutions passed at the Third PCC Congress on the development of the national economy and culture and on improving the well-being of the workers. Today, as never before, the prestige of revolutionary Cuba is high. [end recording]

In conclusion, Kasatonov stressed the strengthening, through these now traditional friendly visits, of the ties of brotherhood and solidarity and, above all, of the extensive cooperation between the armed forces of the two nations.

Soviet Delegation To GOSR Events Arrives
FL0211225988 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Nov 88

[Text] Numerous political and cultural activities will take place in our country to commemorate the 71st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution [GOSR]. In addition, the working people will remember the great date with a productive Red Sunday scheduled by the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions] for next Sunday, 6 November.

The official Soviet delegation arrived in Cuba to attend the activities marking the Great October anniversary. It is headed by (Genrikas Yaks Yabishus), member of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic Communist Party Central Committee and deputy to its Supreme Soviet. The delegation will also attend the celebration of Lithuanian Day in Cienfuegos and will exchange views with Cuban workers.

[Begin (Yabishus) recording in vernacular with simultaneous translation into Spanish] As in previous years, the entire Soviet Union is preparing for the Great October Socialist Revolution celebration this year. We are all waiting for the October festivities. I would like to urge the Cuban people to celebrate this anniversary in the same way we Soviets do. On the occasion of the Great October, I wish you new successes in work, in political work, and hope that the celebration of the Great October will also help in achieving the goal of attaining peace. [end recording]

Main Ceremony in Havana

FL0511125588 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] The main ceremony marking the 71st anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution has been held at the FAR Universal Hall in Havana. The event was presided over by Juan Almeida Bosque, member of the PCC Politburo, and other Cuban and Soviet leaders.

Lionel Soto, secretary of the PCC Central Committee, and Yuriy Petrov, ambassador of the USSR to Cuba, each delivered a speech highlighting the significance of the celebration.

Council of State Honors Soviet Specialists

FL0511130588 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] A group of Soviet military specialists was decorated in Moscow yesterday with the Ernesto "Che" Guevara Order, first degree, and the Internationalist Combatant Medal, first class. The distinctions conferred by Cuba's Council of State are evidence of the recognition given to the dedicated solidarity of combatants who provided their assistance to the FAR during the first years of the revolution.

Meeting on Electronics, Computers Ends

FL0511162088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1400 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] The second Cuba-USSR branch group meeting for cooperation in electronics and computers has ended with the signing of a protocol. The possible number of video terminals and displays our country will send to the Soviet Union was discussed during the meeting. Representatives of the two countries agreed that it was productive and yielded positive results.

Tugboats Acquired From USSR Arrive in Havana

FL0511131788 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] The tugboats "Titan" and "Hercules," acquired by Cuba in the Soviet Union, arrived in Havana Port yesterday. Each of the vessels has a 20-ton thrust power. They will soon be taken to the Matanzas supertanker base to assist in operations involving large vessels which will begin to arrive in December.

DPRK Group Arrives; To Sign Trade Protocol

FL0411145888 Havana Radio Progreso Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] A DPRK Government delegation, headed by Foreign Trade Minister Kim Tae-chong [name and title as heard], has arrived in Cuba. The Korean minister will sign here the trade protocol with Cuba for 1989.

Scientific Cooperation Accord Signed With Brazil

FL0111195288 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1800 GMT 1 Nov 88

[Text] A scientific cooperation agreement was signed this weekend between Brazil and Cuba. The signing of the agreement will facilitate importing the Cuban vaccine against meningitis meningococcus type B, which is the only one of its type produced in the world. The vaccine will be used to fight the epidemic in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. It has been tested by the National Health Institute of Quality Control of the [words indistinct] Osvaldo Cruz. The 55,000 doses donated in August by the Cuban Government to Brazil will be put to use in Sao Paulo before the year's end. It will be given to children 1 to 3 years of age.

The Cuban vaccine, presented for the first time to the international scientific community during the sixth international conference recently held in the United States, had an efficiency index of 70 percent after applying two doses of the vaccine to each of the 100,000 Cuban children treated. According to the specialists, with three doses the efficiency index will be even greater.

The delegation of Cuban scientists headed by Enrique Comendeiros, vice minister of pharmaceutical industries of Cuba's Public Health Ministry, arrived in Brazil last week. Their objective was to present proposals for scientific exchanges in the health field.

In the work meeting between the Cuban and Brazilian scientists, they decided that the exchange should encompass, among other things, areas of mutual interest in research, technological developments, human resources, production of pharmaceutical supplies, medicines, vaccines, and scientific information.

Alternate Representative to UN Appointed

FL0411160088 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network
in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The Council of State has appointed Comrade Maria de los Angeles Flores Prida as alternate permanent representative of Cuba to the United Nations. At the time of her appointment the comrade was deputy director of the Foreign Ministry's International Organizations Directorate.

Commission To Monitor Nuclear Plant in Holguin

FL0511042288 Havana Television Service in Spanish
0100 GMT 5 Nov 88

[By Beatriz Galvan]

[Text] The second territorial delegation of the Executive Secretariat for Cuban Nuclear Affairs has been inaugurated in Holguin. The event was attended by Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of Cuba's Atomic Energy Commission, and leaders of the PCC and the territorial government.

The principal function of this institution is to organize and apply state supervision of nuclear and radiological security for the future nuclear center in the eastern region. It will also be responsible for other nuclear installations in the five eastern provinces and Camaguey.

The headquarters for the nuclear affairs delegation in Holguin contains modern technological equipment.

[Begin recording] [Diaz-Balart, identified by caption] In the next few years, the 500th anniversary of the two cultures will be marked and I think that a grand monument to that meeting will be the construction of an electro-nuclear center in this province, where Christopher Columbus once landed. [end recording]

Workers from construction maintenance group No 14 have participated in the civilian construction of the project. The area was decorated by the Havana Diversified Products Enterprise and the Holguin Furniture and Mattress Enterprise.

The final result of the work of these comrades was also observed by specialists of the Executive Secretariat of Nuclear Affairs from the two provinces, which helped in the technological assembly of the project.

'Emergency Situation' in Havana Phone Service
*FL0511032688 Havana Radio Rebelde Network
in Spanish 0008 GMT 5 Nov 88*

[Interview with (Carlos Barboa Maranon), chief of the Maintenance and Installations Department, and Jose Luis Carreno, provincial deputy director of the Havana Telephone Enterprise, by Juan Carlos Roque Garcia for the "Exclusivo" program, hosted by Daniel Torres—live]

[Excerpts] [Roque Garcia] [Passage omitted] First, let's specify the exact number of telephones that are out of order, according to the last report.

[(Barboa Maranon)] As of this afternoon, we have 6,272 requests for telephone maintenance. Of these requests, 1,152 involve repair work and 5,120 involve cable maintenance. This includes the individual pairs [as heard] and the ones directly affected by cable problems, which represents 81.6 percent of the telephone problems. These problems are a result of the extensive deterioration of the old telephone network due to many years of use.

With the help of the Communications Ministry and our enterprise, we are manufacturing 1,000 km of cable every year. Whereas last year, we had 1,040 km of cable installed, this year we have 454 km installed and 347 km of cable connected.

We are doing everything possible to finish all of the pending repairs. For each zone, we will increase the number of repairmen from 80 to 113. They will maintain the 274,635 units that are installed in Havana.

Also, we are completely reconstructing the cables that run from the terminal, which is the users box, to the main equipment.

[Torres] [Passage omitted] I think the best news would be to know when this situation will be resolved.

[Roque Garcia] Well, then, let's talk with comrade Jose Luis Carreno, as he puts on the headphones. He is the deputy director of the telephone enterprise in the capital. Let's let him now answer your question, Daniel; namely, when will the problem be solved. [passage omitted]

[Luis Carreno] Good evening. We want to tell the people that, as Comrade (Maranon) was explaining, the telephone network, since you were mentioning it, is very old. Our enterprise is supported by the Ministry of Communications. Of course, we find ourselves in the middle of a complete overhaul of the telephone network's exterior plant in Havana. The exterior plant's network has approximately 4,000 km of cable that is, on the average, more than 30 years old.

Our enterprise's objective, which as I have said is aided by the Ministry of Communications, is to completely change that old and obsolete network within the next 4 years, which amounts to 1,000 km of cable per year. Logically, we will begin with the cables that are in the worst shape, the older ones. Consequently, the new cables must be installed, connected, and then we must switch the services from the old cables to the new ones. Of course, with this we will eliminate a series of problems that presently exist in the old cables.

Let's say, for example, that of the 6,000 telephones with problems in Havana, more than 3,000 are having difficulties because of individual pairs. When we say individual pairs we mean telephone pairs that are in one cable. The cable itself does not have any problems, but the pair does. The telephone is affected inside of that cable.

To fix it, a repairman has to open the cable, which may result in interrupted service. Then he fixes the pair and seals it again. This is only to fix one telephone in that pair. Presently, our enterprise is busy finishing the job of improving the telephone network of the exterior plant. This includes completing the installation of the cables, connecting them, and switching all of the services to the new cables. This, of course, will restore a number of services that have been out of order for several months. The cables will be of better quality, because they are new. The user will have notably better service; for the moment, however, we know the user has had this problem for some time.

[Torres] Comrade Carreno, when will this situation improve? On what date? I know the story well because this is the fifth time in 4 months that the mobile unit has done a report like this. What we are asking, because the

comrades who are calling—and by the way, there are many—want to know, is when the emergency situation in the Havana telephone system will be resolved.

[Carreno] We intend to get Havana out of this emergency situation as soon as possible.

[Torres] As soon as possible?

[Carreno] Our minister said that Havana's telephone service will be in good shape, with respect to quality, in the year 1990. However, this is not the issue. This is an emergency situation. We believe that within the next few months—which will be dry months, so the weather will not affect us as much as the rainy season did—in the next 3, 4, or 6, months, we will be able to reestablish service within an admissible timeframe, not the established timeframe. The correct timeframe for Havana's telephone service should be by the end of 1990.

[Torres] In conclusion, within the next 4 or 5 months, interruptions of telephone service should be repaired but the entire old network will not be completely overhauled until 1990. Is this the case?

[Carreno] Yes. That is what we, the telephone workers, have pledged to Commander in Chief Fidel Castro in a letter sent to him. [passage omitted]

*** Overemployment, Overqualified Workers Viewed**
32480013a Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish
8 Sep 88 p 9

[Article by Magda Martinez]

[Text] When payrolls were drawn up in Havana province, four fundamental precepts were violated:

- Two entities belonging to the Ministry of Sugar Industry (MINAZ) and the Steelworking Industry (SIME) in the territory did not keep the calculations they made so that they could be verified later.
- The upper echelons approved positions or occupations without verifying what workers were actually needed.
- The provisions of Resolution No. 3/88 were not enforced.
- Of 33 entities visited by provincial inspectors, only five had their own procedures for determining their hiring capacity.

Payrolls are bloated, but not only is there a surfeit of personnel, workers are also overqualified (the narrow job descriptions are to blame). Now, after finding out how the aforementioned resolution was applied, the inspectors have discovered that the firms thought the rate of overqualification was just 1 to 1.5 percent.

It is easy to infer that the work done in this regard is superficial and lax. The provisions of the legislation were practically ignored, and it was not used as the effective tool it was intended to be when it was passed.

It is imperative that those in charge of drawing up and approving payrolls next year pay particular attention to the recommendations that came out of the inspection. Otherwise, they will consciously fall into the same trap.

Authorization of the payroll without a correct determination of hiring capacity is strictly forbidden. That is elementary. How could anyone think to put 40 people where there is room for 20? Without a doubt, the dead weight we are dragging along today will show up.

Until everyone accepts the idea that we should have only as many workers as we actually need to carry out activity, and is willing to make sure we do not incur unnecessary expenditures of human and financial resources, we will make little progress in our attempts to streamline payrolls. This does not mean, however, that anyone should be kicked out into the street, because there is no room for such a policy within the Revolution. The essential requisite is that each man should contribute something useful to society.

Organizations will channel labor to detect cases of overqualification at each workplace. Above all, administrative tasks must be handled with a great deal of judgment, because it is more difficult to terminate people.

The long-term objective is to eliminate overqualification in the country's work force. Broad job descriptions will put an end to the disorder and the waste of time that results from idleness.

Moreover, each person will be remunerated in accordance with the quality and quantity of the work performed. Any other attitude would be immoral; we will all agree on that.

Foolishness or compromise under the false cloak of paternalism, which is uneconomical anyway, does not favor development either.

To the extent that decisions that are of questionable value to the country disappear, we will begin to eliminate errors and right wrongs. Otherwise, we will be masking reality and delaying the process of transforming society.

The inspection in the province alerted people to Resolution No. 3/88 and promoted its enforcement. The goal is to reach 1989 without falling into the same trap as today.

The assimilation of the recommendations and the subsequent reaction depend on you. Because the fact is, no economy and no country can endure so much inconsistency when it comes time to determine how much staff is required to meet labor needs. To proceed otherwise is completely utopian.

*** Rise in Price Subsidies for Food Products**
32480013b Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish
7 Sep 88 p 1

[Article by Jose Yanes]

[Text] As of 30 June a total of 180,655,200 pesos had been paid out of the Central Budget for subsidies on basic necessities, reported the Office of Trade and Services of the State Finance Committee.

Compared to the same period of 1987, the amount spent on this item grew by 8.3 percent, equivalent to 13,850,800 pesos. The growth was concentrated in the area of food products, with the exception of milk, which fell by 1,329,800 pesos.

During the period in question, the most noteworthy increases were in the "other foods" category, with 6,946,700 pesos. Havana (3,495,100 pesos) and Camaguey Province (2,698,400 pesos) accounted for the largest shares of that figure.

In the first case, the increase was found in cheese products (1,995,900 pesos), viscera (231,600 pesos), and pork (908,100 pesos), which were not subsidized in 1987.

In the case of Camaguey, the growth is disproportionate and is being reviewed.

Another product that experienced significant increases is fresh and frozen fish, with 4,289,600 pesos. The increases are a result of higher distribution figures at the end of the first 6 months of the year, specifically in the provinces of Santiago de Cuba and Guantanamo.

With the exception of Havana, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Ciego de Avila, and the Isle of Youth, the remaining provinces showed a rise in subsidies over the same period of last year.

The subsidies on basic consumer items, such as beef, frozen chicken, and beans, have made it possible for many years to keep their prices at low levels that are affordable for everyone.

*** Recycled Oil Quotas, Quality Problems Noted**

32480029 [Editorial Report] The Havana Spanish-language paper TRABAJADORES published a report in its 5 October 1988 issue on page 1 that the amount of used oil collected up to the month of August equals 18,700 tons. The most successful ministries to collect this source of convertible currency are the ministries of Light Industry, Basic Industry, Education, and Food. Two plants, one in the Hermanos Diaz Refinery in Santiago de Cuba and another in the Cotorro refinery in La Habana, recycle lubricating oil and also manufacture it from crude oil. Quality control is a problem in that some entities which do not meet projected deliveries add water

and other polluting agents, which in turn hampers recycling plants in meeting their quotas. Cuba hopes to save \$6 million in reduced imports by recycling 28,000 tons of oil this year.

*** Oil Workers' Living Conditions Described**
32480014a Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish
14 Sep 88 p 3

[Article by Rebeca Antunez]

[Text] The idea of improving the living conditions of Cuban oil workers within the near future has become a reality today with the introduction of trailers.

The arrival of these vehicles at the Union of Petroleum Prospecting and Drilling is hardly an innovation, because that used to be the ideal way to house oil workers who must remain for days, even years, in a given area searching for crude oil.

The revival of this system is an indication that the errors of the past are truly being recognized and that a good rectification program is being implemented.

Juan Fleites Melo, director of the Union, told this newspaper that ideally, the worker camps should be located right next to the well, with a small number of workers, to guarantee the necessary mobility in this completely nomadic activity.

Having just a few men at the camps makes it possible to keep an eye on the equipment that has been assigned; environmental health is maintained more easily, and food preparation is improved.

This decision is very important for the management, because it is one more way to achieve the stability of the workforce in a difficult and arduous activity.

There are indications that central camps are completely inefficient; the only thing they have contributed is increased malaise among workers who need better living conditions.

According to Fleites, the trailers are built at the Francisco Acanda Factory and the Caibarien and Majagua units. The furniture is purchased on the commercial market.

A total of nine other trailers have been obtained from the Soviet Union, and are being adapted to conditions in Cuba. In addition, they have air conditioning, as they are hermetically sealed. Ours have vents and large windows, which will keep the sleeping areas cool for the present.

The modules will have as many bedrooms as the crew in question requires, as well as a dining room, kitchen, and collective bathroom. Whenever it becomes necessary to move, all equipment will undergo maintenance before work begins.

Fleites reported that this year 10 more modules are slated for delivery; they will be sent primarily to the western part of the country. In Varadero, meanwhile, the central camp must be brought up to standard. It is having serious problems in meeting the workers' needs.

It has been proposed that this new housing arrangement be implemented throughout the country, and next year a large number of such camps will be established, as long as construction materials, especially lumber, are available.

Later on, conditions at the camps should improve as spring mattresses and color television sets are introduced. Then, plans call for air conditioning to be installed gradually.

Oil workers all over are preparing to give a real boost to the country's economy, and that is why improving their living and working conditions is such a high priority, so that the essential workforce can remain stable.

*** Tourism Statistics for Varadero Detailed**
32480014b Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish
6 Sep 88 p 2

[Article by Jose Francisco Reyes]

[Text] As of July, the internationally known beach at Varadero had been visited by a total of 68,297 foreign tourists. This is 6,851 higher than the number of foreign visitors recorded at Playa Azul for the same period last year.

According to information provided to TRABAJADORES by Norma Perez Bello, assistant director of economics at the Varadero Tourism Enterprise of the National Institute of Tourism (INTUR), the improvements made in the availability of restaurants, recreation, tours, excursions, and outings has made it possible to raise the prices for optional activities.

Regarding national tourism, a total of 28,300 Cubans had visited this renowned hotel complex through the end of July, staying an average of 7 days.

The official indicated that about 6,410 employees work at this tourism enterprise, and there are approximately 25 facilities designed especially to meet the needs of the guests who come from overseas.

Canadian tourists tend to return to this hotel complex at a rate of 17 percent, although progress has also been made in encouraging tourists from the FRG, Italy, Spain, Argentina, and Mexico to make repeat visits.

In order to support the growth of tourism in Varadero, a construction investment plan has been drawn up. Accordingly, by 1991 the total number of hotel rooms should be 5,461. At present, 2,853 rooms are available to accommodate guests.

Perez Bello stated that the commercial management of the entity has improved significantly. As of 7 July, the sales plan was exceeded by 13.8 percent, and only 95 percent of the wage fund had been spent. This represents a savings of 410,800 pesos in that regard.

Other indices pointing to the efficiency of the operation are the reduction of the wage cost per peso of sales to 3.2 centavos, and the reduction of nearly 10 centavos in the total cost of the enterprise.

Inter-Caribbean Affairs

Measures To Improve News Exchange Discussed
FL0311221788 Bridgetown CANA in English
2005 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Nov 3, CANA—A just-ended meeting of regional television news executives in Barbados has decided to increase efforts to improve the flow of information via the electronic media in the Caribbean.

The broadcasters, meeting under the aegis of the Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU) and the West German body, the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), have agreed on measures to improve the quality of an on-going satellite news exchange, and to widen participation in and the frequency of a fortnightly-taped magazine programme entitled "Caribscope."

A CBU release said the officials would also intensify attempts at tapping regional and international sources to obtain training for television personnel in all aspects of the medium. As a first step in this direction, it was announced at the meeting that a West German engineer would begin a month-long exercise in equipment maintenance at television systems in Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados, beginning this week.

As part of the efforts to widen the information flow, the CBU and the FES, which are jointly running the "Caribvision" satellite news exchange project, invited the Trinidad and Tobago National Airline, BWIA, and the regional service, Liat, to the television news executives meeting in Barbados. And as a result of presentations made, discussions are to be initiated with the regional airlines towards formulating mutual arrangements for the easier and more economical movement of taped programmes emanating from the CBU throughout the region.

The meeting also found interest in its material from metropolitan broadcasters, including the television system of Mexico, Televisa, and WGBH educational foundation Public Broadcasting of Boston, United States.

"The broadcasters were also very loud in their praise for a recent production undertaken by a Trinidad and Tobago television crew, Messrs Brian Carter and Bisoon-dath Rampersad, on Jamaica after the recent disastrous hurricane, Gilbert," the CBU release said.

The broadcasters said the production, initiated by the CBU/FES news exchange project, helped tremendously, not only in mobilising support for Jamaica from their respective populations, but also heightened awareness to the need for effective disaster preparedness programmes in the various Caribbean countries.

"Because of some problems encountered in the collection and transmission of domestic video footage in Jamaica of the actual battering by Hurricane Gilbert, the meeting felt the need to enhance their capabilities for automatic coverage of such events," the CBU reported.

Also attending the Barbados meeting were representatives of the Caricom Secretariat and the Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago telecommunications bodies, Bet and Textel, who support the Caribbean television news exchange.

Bahamas

Inspector Charged Under Drug Trafficking Act
FL0311163588 Bridgetown CANA in English
0911 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Text] Nassau, Bahamas, Nov 3, CANA—A police inspector has become the highest ranking officer of the Bahamas police force to be charged for possession of property linked to drug-related activities. He has been charged under the 1988 "Tracing and Forfeiture of the Proceeds of Drug Trafficking Act."

Inspector Rudolph Stubbs was reported to be the owner of seven pieces of land, including a two-acre portion in the relatively high-priced western end of New Providence in Nassau, and four vehicles. The state is alleging that the possessions were gained through participation in drug trafficking activities.

Stubbs appeared before a city magistrate Tuesday and pleaded not guilty. He is charged with living off the proceeds of drug trafficking and possessing property derived from participating in drug trafficking.

A police source said Stubbs was the fourth or fifth law officer so far charged under the new drug act, but other charges were likely to be laid in future. Stubbs was released on US\$25,000-dollar bail and will return to court on January 17, 1989.

Dominica

Prime Minister Charles To Seek Another Term
FL0511134088 Bonaire Trans World Radio
in English 1300 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles says that she will seek another term as prime minister. Ms Charles made the announcement Thursday during a parade marking the 10th anniversary of Dominica's independence.

Delegations Arrive for Independence Anniversary
FL0311165088 Bridgetown CANA in English
1608 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Roseau, Dominica, Nov 3, CANA—Countries from as far away as China have sent senior diplomats to celebrations which opened Thursday to mark Dominica's 10th anniversary of independence. [passage omitted]

Other countries represented are from the Commonwealth Caribbean as well as Brazil, France, United States and Canada, while officials are representing a number of international development organisations.

A 54-member Bahamian band arrived Tuesday, while a 21-member pipe band from Britain was due Wednesday to take part in cultural and other activities this week. A film crew from the BBC in Britain has also arrived for the "Reunion 88" independence celebrations.

Dominican Republic

Reformist Party Political Secretary Resigns
FL0511155288 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network
in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] It has been reported that President Balaguer recommended that Joaquin Ricardo leave the Reformist Party. It is believed that the chief of state intends to reorganize his party. Foreign Minister Joaquin Ricardo resigned as political secretary of the Reformist Party at the recommendation of party President Joaquin Balaguer.

Internal political sources told the evening EL NACIONAL newspaper that the measure is a step taken by Balaguer to reorganize his party internally. The paper subsequently published the report.

Sectors of the Reformist Party said that Dr Juan Aristides Taveras Guzman may also be dismissed from his post as Dominican ambassador to the United Nations. According to the sources, Taveras Guzman will return to the country and join the ruling party's political activities.

It is also speculated that government officials of Social-Christian ideology will be removed and sent to carry out political activities in the party to silence the protests of the authentic reformists.

According to EL NACIONAL sources, the next assembly for the election of the Reformist Party leadership will have to choose between two tickets but both will be headed by Joaquin Balaguer.

Former President Claims Violation of Rights
*FL0411170288 Santo Domingo Radio Mil Network
in Spanish 1000 GMT 4 Nov 88*

[Text] Former President Salvador Jorge Blanco, who is accused of embezzling from the state, is asking for his case to be reviewed by the Inter-American Human Rights Court, which is a branch of the OAS. The former chief of state asked for this organization to get involved if the Inter-American Human Rights Commission cannot find a solution to his case.

In a 70-page document sent to the Inter-American Human Rights Commission, Jorge Blanco refutes Dominican Government statements regarding his claim that his rights have allegedly been violated. Jorge Blanco is asking that the exercise of his rights be guaranteed; he believes his rights have been [words indistinct] separation and compensation of [words indistinct] he says has suffered in the domestic and international area.

The former president is also asking that orders be issued to stop his persecution, persecution he believes is politically motivated and fraudulent from the legal standpoint. Jorge Blanco is also asking from Atlanta that his rights as a citizens be reinstated and that he be considered innocent of the charges until his guilt is proven in court.

Haiti

Col Paul Dies of Apparent Heart Attack
*PA0711042788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0404 GMT
7 Nov 88*

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 6 Nov (EFE)—Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, former commander of the Jean Jacques Dessalines Battalion, was found dead on 6 November in his home in Port-au-Prince, apparently the victim of cardiac arrest, local radio stations have reported.

Paul, 59, was sought in the United States for cocaine trafficking after a long military career, during which he was linked with the tonton macoutes, personal bodyguards of the President Jean Claude Duvalier regime.

Subsequently, he was the "strongman" of the General Henri Namphy regime, until Namphy was overthrown last 17 September. The new chief of state, Prosper Avril, later decided to place him in the reserves.

Radio Soleil Report

*FL0711140788 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil Network
in Creole 1200 GMT 7 Nov 88*

[Text] According to a military source close to the head of the Army, former Dessalines Barracks commander, Colonel Jean-Claude Paul, died at around 1400 yesterday at his home on the road to Fort Jacques. This source says that Col Paul died of a heart attack. The source also

said yesterday that the commander in chief of the Army ordered the secretary of the General Staff to inform all members of the High Command.

The same source said that an autopsy was to be performed on the body at the military hospital. However, the military hospital has as yet not received the body.

According to a another report on this matter, the Petion-Ville police have either arrested or taken into custody Mireille Delinois, the colonel's wife, in order to provide security for her. The Petion-Ville police refused to give any further details on the matter.

According to reports, Col Paul's brothers accuse Mireille Delinois of being an accomplice in this death.

There were several Dessalines Barracks soldiers at Col Paul's last night. The soldiers were very upset and tense, and a lieutenant heading the group asked journalists who had come to seek information to get out. He told them if they needed information, to go seek it on the streets.

We remind listeners that Col Paul became the head of the Dessalines Barracks on 31 January 1986. A federal grand jury in Miami accused him of drug trafficking on 1 March 1988. Before 22 February, the Army High Command had announced that it had not received any charge to that effect. Jean-Claude Paul went into retirement on 30 September. The U.S. Government had applauded that decision made by the new Avril regime.

Following the overthrow of General Henri Namphy on 17 September, Washington had first warned against giving Col Paul any promotion, and had expressed satisfaction at the fact that Col Paul had not been appointed defense minister, as the American authorities had feared would happen.

When he was sent into retirement on 1 February [as heard], a State Department spokesman declared that this was a positive development that would improve the prospects for their cooperation with Haiti in the struggle against drugs.

Draft Decree Creating Elections Body Issued
*FL0711163788 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in Creole 1400 GMT 3 Nov 88*

[Excerpt] As the president of the military government, Lieutenant General Prosper Avril, had announced in his 21 October 1988 message to the nation, the military government has issued the draft of a decree creating an independent body to organize elections in Haiti.

The text of this draft decree was distributed to several political parties and socioprofessional organizations last Saturday and Monday for them to make suggestions and recommendations regarding the decree.

The independent body that is to organize elections in Haiti provided for in this decree is called the Electoral College of Haiti [College Electoral d'Haiti], CEDA.

The draft decree has 37 articles, in four chapters. [passage omitted]

Further on Draft Decree

FL0411181288 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1700 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Text] The Avril government has submitted to political leaders a draft decree creating the Electoral College of Haiti, or CEDA.

The decree creates an independent institution with legal status named the Electoral College of Haiti [College Electoral d'Haiti], with headquarters in Port-au-Prince and with the acronym CEDA. This institution falls under the administrative protection of the Ministry of Justice. The CEDA (?has) all the rights, privileges, and prerogatives of an institution independent of the government, and may exercise them throughout Haiti.

CEDA's mission is to organize and supervise all electoral operations throughout Haiti, to draft an electoral law and submit it to the executive branch of the government, to ensure that voters are properly registered and that electoral rolls are properly kept, to settle conflicts between parties during the elections, to rule on any disputes that may arise during the elections, to intervene in cases of violation of the electoral law, and to prepare the dossiers of offenders in order to send them before the competent court.

CEDA's objectives are the following: to undertake or encourage all initiatives aimed at educating the Haitian people regarding proper democratic practices; to determine what equipment is needed to carry out the electoral operations and to acquire such equipment; to prepare and compile the elements of information indispensable for making decisions in connection with the elections; to ensure the maintenance of the institution's technical material; to hold unfettered, honest, open, and impartial elections; to ensure that the members of the institution hold themselves aloof from clans, groups, and parties; and to identify and register the population of voting age.

Regarding its organization, the CEDA is made up of a board of directors called the Electoral Council, and a general administration that includes an administrative directorate, a technical directorate, an electoral operations directorate, a general inspection office, and electoral tribunals.

The Electoral Council is the organ that makes decisions, supervises, and orients the CEDA. It is made up of nine members appointed by decree by the executive branch of the government. The president and vice president of this Council are chosen by means of a vote by the council members.

In order to be a member of the Electoral Council, one must: be of Haitian origin and never have renounced one's nationality; be at least 40 years old; be in full possession of one's civil and political rights and never have been sentenced to death, personal restraint, penal servitude, or the loss of one's civil rights; have lived in Haiti for at least 2 years prior to one's appointment; and to have been exonerated with regard to one's handling of public monies, if one has been responsible for public monies.

The first Electoral Council will have one member per geographical department of Haiti. The first Electoral Council's mandate ends upon the installation of the new members, who will be appointed in accordance with the stipulations of the Constitution in effect at the moment that the elected president of the Republic takes the oath of office.

These, then, are some of the points of this draft decree creating the CEDA that has been submitted to certain political leaders by the Avril government.

Opposition Leaders Reject Draft

FL0511133088 Bonaire Trans World Radio
in English 1300 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] Opposition leaders in Haiti have rejected a draft bill proposing the government name a board to supervise future elections. General Prosper Avril's government made the proposal but the opposition has charged that the bill violates the 1987 Haitian Constitution. They say an electoral oversight board must be named by religious and human rights officials.

Open Letter to U.S. Congressional Delegation

FL0411191588 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in Creole 1145 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Excerpts] The Coordinating Committee of the Democratic Forces [Comite de Coordination des Forces Democratiques]—heretofore known as the Liaison Committee of the Democratic Forces, McNally-Volel branch—has addressed an open letter to the delegation of assistants of U.S. senators that is visiting Haiti to investigate the situation following last 17 September's coup d'etat, which brought Lieutenant General Prosper Avril to power. [passage omitted]

The letter says that after the 17 September coup, which was effected by the Haitian people, the Duvalierist elements in the Army took advantage of the moment of hesitation in Haiti to turn power over to a long-time Duvalierist, Gen Prosper Avril.

[The letter says:] All Haiti, with which we are in solidarity, refuses Mr Prosper Avril's presidency for the following reasons: re-Duvalierization of the country to his personal benefit, illegal and unconstitutional arrests and detentions, physical elimination of patriots calling for the resignation of notorious Duvalierists from the public

administration, creation of a climate of insecurity and nocturnal killings, and violation of the Constitution of 29 March 1987. [passage omitted]

Under these conditions, we think that the best way to further democracy in Haiti would be to withhold U.S. aid until a definitive government elected democratically under the Constitution of 1987 is installed. Meanwhile, humanitarian aid could be continued through the nongovernmental organizations, concludes this letter from the Coordinating Committee of the Democratic Forces, heretofore known as the McNally-Volel branch of the Liaison Committee of the Democratic Forces. [passage omitted]

Political Leaders Meet Venezuela's Perez
FL0411200288 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale
in Creole 1400 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Excerpt] During a meeting last Monday with a group of Haitian political leaders, Mr Carlos Andres Perez, leader of the [Venezuelan] party Democratic Action, announced his intention to write democratic presidents in Latin America so that they could demand that the OAS take appropriate, quick action to further democracy in Haiti.

We will not support any specific Haitian group but rather everyone who is struggling to (?establish) democracy properly in Haiti, said Perez.

Participating in the meeting were Louis Dejoie, leader of the National Agricultural and Industrial Party and a former presidential candidate; Dr Louis E. Roy, a former member of the constituent assembly; Serges Gilles and Arnold Antonin, representing the democratic sector; and Victor Benoit and Moyse Senatus, representing Konakom [National Committee of the Congress of the Democratic Movements].

Among the topics discussed (?by) the representatives of the various parties were the human rights situation in Haiti, the need to properly and fully respect the Constitution of 1987, and the (?need) to set up an emergency plan to help Haiti face its current suffocating socioeconomic crisis. [passage omitted]

Port-au-Prince Bar Calls for Assembly Session
FL0411193388 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1700 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Excerpt] The courts and tribunals at the Law Courts (?shut down) on Monday, 31 October, as a sign of mourning following the murder of lawyer Jacques Philippe, whose body was found on the road to the north on 29 October.

In a press release, the Order of Members of the Port-au-Prince Bar declares: In view of the wave of force and violence in all respects, and in view of the multiplication ad infinitum of attacks of all kinds against public defenders exercising their profession—despite vigorous protests

and unequivocal warnings (?that) the security and freedom of the practice of law (?must be guaranteed)—the council of the Order has decided to call for a special session of the general assembly on Friday, 4 November, at 1100, at the hearings hall of the first civil chamber at the Law Courts, in order to—(?in addition to) a resolution based on principle—take whatever joint decision or concrete action is deemed to be in the interests of the entire Order. [passage omitted]

Seven Fort Dimanche Soldiers Discharged
FL0411211488 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1700 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] According to a military source, seven Fort Dimanche soldiers who were arrested last month for—according to their commanding officer—having tried to set fire to Fort Dimanche have been released and discharged from the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH].

We remind listeners that the version of this story given by the commander of Fort Dimanche was contradicted by several political groups in Port-au-Prince, which declared that the soldiers intended to remove [Isidor] Pongnon as commander of Fort Dimanche.

The military source in question says these soldiers have now been released and discharged from the FADH, for having sullied the military uniform.

Further on Shoot-Out During Search Operation
FL0411183688 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole
in French 1700 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Insecurity is making the front page in Port-au-Prince. Since last week, bodies have been being found in the streets of Port-au-Prince. Most of these bodies bear bullet wounds. Again this morning, our reporters tell us that the body of a man some 30 years old, with a big hole in his head apparently caused by a heavy-caliber weapon, was found on the Place d'Italie, on the Bicentenaire.

Meanwhile, the searches that the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH] General Headquarters had said were going to be resumed have indeed been resumed, since the beginning of the week. Vehicles are being searched, on Port-au-Prince's main roads and in Petion-Ville.

The FADH General Headquarters, in a communique dated 2 November, reveals an incident that occurred yesterday, during a search operation at a private home in Bon Repos. [passage omitted]

The communique affirms that the proprietor of the residence, far from allowing the military to enter, opened fire on them and threw a grenade in their direction. [passage omitted]

The note says: Roland d'Haiti was mortally wounded, and a servant was hurt by shrapnel from the grenade. [passage omitted]

A laborer working in the house gave his version of the incident in an interview by a colleague from Radio Haiti-Inter. Let's listen.

[Begin recording] [Laborer, speaking in Creole] I was inside the house working. There is a camera button [as heard] outside, and when you arrive, you have to press the button to talk to the owner of the house. While I was inside, someone pressed the button. The owner asked: Who's there? The person didn't answer. The owner asked again; and again there was no answer. Once again it happened, and then the person said: If you don't come open the gate, we will blow up the house.

[Reporter] What time did this happen?

[Laborer] At 1130. After some 10 seconds, a vehicle went: honk, honk. They appeared. Shots were heard: Pow! Pow! They shot a lot.

[Reporter] You say they appeared. Who is they?

[Laborer] Soldiers, dressed in olive green.

[Reporter] What kind of car were they in?

[Laborer] In a blue car, carrying weapons. They shot at the house. Then they entered the house. The owner had shut all the doors. I am a tile-layer. I was working inside the house. My name is (Anya Joseph). I was with (Servir Abado) and (Delius Joseph). We were inside the house, working. The owner, Roland d'Haiti, came and told us: Gentlemen, we are not going out. Get down on your bellies. So we did. They broke down the door and got inside. When they came in they trashed (?things). They took all the weapons in the house and so forth. They arrested me and made me kneel down and cross my arms. There were weapons in the house.

They made me cross my arms and arrested me. Then they made me stand up, and they took us outside—put us in the car, outside. While I was in the car they asked: Is the man there? I said: Yes, he's there. He didn't come out, because he told me to lie down on my stomach and not to go out—talking about Roland d'Haiti. [sentence as heard]

While they arrested me and made me lie down in the car outside I told them he was inside. They went into the house and did indeed find him, in his wife's room, behind a refrigerator. They fired (?two shots) at him. He was apparently wounded.

[Reporter] But when did you learn this, since you said you were inside the car, under arrest?

[Laborer] Yes, at the same time. I mean, things happened quickly. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] But when they went and fired inside the house, you were outside!

[Laborer] Yes, I was. But the soldiers standing by the gate—because some went inside and some stayed outside, some kept watch over me, where I was lying in the car—I heard the ones at the gate say: Ah, there he is! Then I heard: Pow! I heard him cry out. Then I heard: Pow!. Again. He cried out again. They said: Ah, we found him! They said: Arrest him. They finished killing him, and then they came back outside. [end recording]

That was the statement made by a laborer who was working inside Roland d'Haiti's house when the military came to search. He made these statements to a colleague from Haiti-Inter. This is the first incident of this kind that has occurred since the search operations have been resumed. [passage omitted]

Jamaica

Company Launches New Weekend Newspaper
FL0511134288 Bridgetown CANA in English
2145 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Nov 4, CANA—The Jamaica Record Company, footing in the local newspaper market, Friday put on the streets its stable mate—a racy weekend tabloid.

When it announced the imminent launch of THE WEEKEND ENQUIRER in a front-page story in its morning daily, Jamaica Record promised the paper would go places where "others have feared to tread."

The paper "will feature saucy entertainment, up-to-date news and behind the scenes look at people," the Record promised of the new paper. "Gossip will also form part of the line up of offerings the paper has in store."

The weekend paper is likely to compete more directly with WEEKEND STAR, the Friday afternoon edition of the light crime-oriented afternoon daily that is the sister paper to the staid, 154-year-old, DAILY GLEANER.

The editor of the GLEANER publication, Dr. Dudley Stokes, recognised the new paper as a competitor, but was not unduly worried about the increasing battle in the newspaper marketplace. "Any newspaper that comes on the scene is a competitor," Stokes said in an interview. "But competition is good and it brings out the best in us, in people like me."

The Daily Jamaica Record, with economist Mark Ricketts as the publisher and editor, was launched with a stutter after much earlier fanfare. It missed its announced and much anticipated launch date and when it appeared a week later the following day's edition was missed. Advertising was slow, but though it has picked up substantially since then officials concede that it has not yet reached anticipated levels.

Editorial Hails De la Madrid Remarks in Cuba

PA0611164088 Mexico City *EL NACIONAL*
in Spanish 1 Nov 88 p 11

[Editorial: "An Apt Statement"]

[Text] The statement was accurate. If pressure did not subdue us in the past, no one in the future will be able to diminish the friendship between Mexico and Cuba. President Miguel de la Madrid said this yesterday on receiving the Jose Marti Medal from President Fidel Castro. He accepted the award "in the name of the Mexican people, the true actors in this demonstration of Latin American patriotism that is our fraternal relationship."

Indeed, we did not choose our geographic proximity, but the two peoples and governments have cultivated a permanent fraternal relationship, particularly in the last 3 decades.

For this reason it is of singular importance that our bilateral relations have attained, as President De la Madrid said, a high level of maturity and an institutional character that guarantees their continuity and continued advancement toward higher goals.

The similarities between the two governments are neither slight nor negligible. Both Mexico and Cuba are interested in a correction of the course of the international economic system. Why should our peoples be condemned to be mere walk-on actors in an international division of labor that does not favor us and has not done so since colonial times?

It is not, it can not be coincidental that the two governments share concern over the shameful system of apartheid in South Africa, and that they want Argentina's rights over the Malvinas Islands to be restored, the Panama Canal Zone treaties to be fulfilled, and Chile to return to full democracy as soon as possible.

Shared experiences have dictated our history. Hence Miguel de la Madrid's apt statement, in referring to the recent meeting of the Group of Eight, that it is the greatest organizational effort for political communication that has been made to date. He said: "Until our voices can become a solo, let them at least form a democratic and progressive chorus."

Government Official on Budget Cuts, Economy

PA0311174588 Mexico City *UNOMASUNO* in Spanish
30 Oct 88 pp 1, 5

[Report by J. Antonio Zuniga M.]

[Excerpts] Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo, Guerrero, 29 October—The Planning and Budget Secretariat reported here that estimated public expenses will be reduced by approximately 17.6 trillion pesos this year, which is equivalent to 19.5 percent of the budget planned for 1988.

Approximately one out of every 5 pesos originally budgeted for public expenses and investments has not been used this year due to adjustments to, direct cuts in, and updating of the budget to make it correspond with Economic Solidary Pact objectives and to cope with the effects of the drop in the price of oil and increased interests rates,

Ernesto Zedillo, deputy budget planning and control secretary, who closed the sessions of the 16th annual convention of the Mexican Institute of Financial Executives [Instituto Mexicano de Ejecutivos de Finanzas] (IMEF), noted that as a result of capital flight, "the GNP has not grown, and not enough jobs have been created."

He added that since 1980 the investment rate in relation to the GNP has dropped from 25 to 17 percent, which represents a 32-percent reduction during this period. [figures as published] [passage omitted]

He stressed that the country has managed to cope with contingencies and with an unfavorable situation brought about by foreign influences and by accumulated foreign debt. Nevertheless, [he pointed out that] there has been progress in restructuring the economy, the only way to support the country's economic recovery.

Zedillo said that the public sector's participation in the economy "cannot be subject to a straitjacket" which may reduce its efficiency. He added that as of 30 September 1988, 727 of the 1,155 government agencies that existed in 1982 have been privatized. Furthermore, he said, it is possible that in the next few weeks some large parastatal companies may complete this process. [passage omitted]

Budget Secretariat Releases Public Spending Data

PA0311143388 Mexico City *UNOMASUNO* in Spanish
31 Oct 88 pp 1, 14

[Report by J. Antonio Zuniga M.]

[Excerpt] According to Planning and Budget Secretariat (SPP) reports, only 5.2 percent of total public spending during the 1st half of this year consisted of capital investments, while 68.5 percent of expenditures consisted of interest payments on the public sector's domestic and foreign debt.

In other words, five centavos of each peso spent by the public sector during the 1st half of 1988 were devoted to investments, which include the construction and maintenance of public works, and 68 centavos were used to pay interest to the central and parastatal administrations' domestic and foreign creditors.

Comparatively speaking, interest payments were 13 times greater than public sector outlays in order to improve the country's production capacity.

Capital investments during this period, which are at their lowest level during this decade and during the current 6-year presidential term, amounted to approximately 2.9 trillion pesos. Funds used to pay interest on the public sector's domestic and foreign debt totaled 39.5 trillion pesos.

Public sector investments have shown a marked downward trend during this administration. This is in contrast to the policy the government has pursued with regard to the payment of interest on its domestic and foreign debt. [passage omitted]

Finance Official Discusses Need for New Loans
PA3010233588 Mexico City THE NEWS in English
28 Oct 88 pp 1, 43

[Report by Daniel Alder]

[Text] Ixtapa—Finance Under Secretary Francisco Suarez Davila said Thursday that Mexico should either seek the forgiveness of part of its debt or "dilute" the problem with additional credits of about \$5 billion per year.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Mexican Institute of Finance Executives (IMEF) national convention, Suarez Davila said new loans should come from multilateral institutions—such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to reduce Mexico's commitments with private banks.

In addition to being a policy goal, Suarez Davila said the shift from private to official creditors is a necessity. "As the private banking system predictably is not going to award fresh loans, we will have to obtain them from multilateral organizations and Eximbanks," he said.

The subsecretary said new loans of 5 billion dollars per year would reduce the transfer of resources outside the country from the current annual rate of about 5.5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to 2 percent of GDP.

Suarez Davila said the annual increase of 5 percent in Mexican foreign debt—assuming a base of 100 billion dollars—could be offset by exports.

"If exports increase at a rate of over 10 percent then the debt burden will be diminished," he said, in spite of new credits.

But Suarez Davila also gave figures that show a continued deterioration of Mexico's trade balance. He said Mexico's trade surplus for the January-September 1988 period was "over 2.5 billion dollars." Official figures released previously put the figures at 2.471 billion dollars, or about half its level for the same period last year.

Explaining the two loans he said were now being negotiated, Suarez Davila said the IMF portion is exclusively to counteract low oil prices, while the World Bank loan is to be used for economic development.

The IMF loan could be about 400 million dollars and "is an automatic mechanism to which all countries that export raw materials have access, and that doesn't imply an adjustment program or any other form of conditionality."

The World Bank negotiations—of 1.5 to 2 billion dollars—would support economic recuperation and be directed towards parastatals, the fertilizer, steel and electric power industries and industrial reconversion of the private sector, Suarez Davila said.

1 Killed, 5 Wounded in FDN-PRI Shoot-Out
PA0611201588 Mexico City UNOMASUNO
in Spanish 1 Nov 88 p 6

[Article by Manuel Roque]

[Excerpts] Morelia, Michoacan, 31 Oct—One person was killed and five wounded in a shoot-out yesterday between supporters of the predominantly PRI-affiliated Ocampo city council and members of the National Democratic Front (FDN), who had occupied the municipal palace to demand the resignation of Mayor Lazaro Martinez Gallegos. [passage omitted]

The FDN has reported that one of its members, Maria Elena Estrada Colin, was shot in the face and killed; Remedios Vega, 50, and Jose Antonio Resendiz, 24, were wounded. Meanwhile, authorities reported that PRI members Luis Felipe Bernal Gallegos and Eliseo Antonio Bernal Gallegos—brothers of the municipal treasurer—were shot, and Cornelio Martinez Gallegos, the mayor's brother, was stabbed in the back. [passage omitted]

The state attorney general's office has announced that it is investigating the incident. [passage omitted]

Two Killed in Clash Between Labor Unions
PA0411134588 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0556 GMT
4 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Mexico City, 3 Nov (EFE)—The Red Cross has reported at least 2 people killed and 17 wounded in a clash last night between approximately 400 members of two labor unions inside the "Presidente Chapultepec" Hotel in Mexico City.

The Federal District Judicial Police reported to EFE that at 2130 (0330 GMT on Friday), an "armed force" of the Confederation of Mexican Workers (CTM) entered the building carrying homemade bombs, machineguns, and large-caliber rifles and opened fire on a group of members of the Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants (CROC).

The source said the dispute was apparently caused by the labor groups' competing for entertainment contracts in Mexico City's principal hotels and nightclubs. [passage omitted]

Mexico City police refused to report the number of people arrested in the clash, but unofficial reports indicate almost 200 arrests were made. [passage omitted]

4 Drug Smugglers, 5 Tons of Cocaine Seized
FL0311201488 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
2155 GMT 2 Nov 88

[Text] Chihuahua, 2 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Agents of the Federal Judicial Police today detained 4 people and identified 6 others in relation to a 5-ton shipment of cocaine that was seized by the Army 6 days ago in the Mexican state of Chihuahua, said Carlos Armendariz Guevara, deputy delegate of the agency.

Conrado Franco Romero, Alfonso Gomez Castro, Francisco Javier Parra Lozano, and Simon Romero Gardea were arrested in various towns throughout the state for their alleged involvement with the group of drug traffickers that brought almost 5,000 kg of cocaine into the country. This is the largest shipment ever apprehended in the history of Mexico's war on drug trafficking.

Investigations by the federal agents revealed that each prisoner carried out a different task which permitted the introduction of the drug into Mexico. These tasks included preparing a secret airfield in the area of San Lorenzo in Buenaventura municipality and unloading packages and taking them to caves where they were then discovered by soldiers. They were also in charge of refueling the seven planes that transported the narcotics and they gave refuge to the operatives.

Armendariz Guevara added that they have the statements of 22 other people that name Jesus Alfonso Morales, alias "El Pocho," as the head of the criminal group. He rented from 17 residents the land on which he received and hid the cocaine.

The head of the police organization said that from 21-22 September, seven Turbo-Commander planes arrived in Chihuahua from Colombia. Each plane was carrying 650-700 kg of cocaine. The cocaine was then taken by trucks and pickups to the caves.

The prisoners have been placed in the custody of the Federal Public Ministry in the city of Chihuahua. In the meantime, the investigations continue in various parts of the country in the hopes of finding the rest of the drug smugglers.

Troops in Nogales To Combat Drug Trafficking
PA3010233988 Mexico City THE NEWS in English
27 Oct 88 p 4

[From the "Around The Nation" column]

[Text] Nogales, Sonora—Two Hercules DC-130 jets will arrive at the airport here Friday [28 October] with 130 Army soldiers who will make up part of the first squadron of 600 troops of the 89th Infantry Battalion, to be based here. This reinforcement comes under the program to combat drug trafficking in the state, it was reported. Drug traffic has grown to uncontrollable levels here, said Brig. Gen. Salvador Gomez Resendiz, head of the units in Nogales.

Agreement Signed With Guatemala for Port Complex
PA0611192388 Mexico City UNOMASUNO
in Spanish 2 Nov 88 p 15

[Summary] Representatives from Mexico and Guatemala signed a \$38.5 million agreement to build a port complex in Champerico, Retalhuleu, 150 km southeast of Guatemala City. The project will be financed by both governments with support from the Central American Bank of Economic Integration (BCIE).

The document was signed for Guatemala by Vice President Roberto Carpio and Agriculture Minister Rodolfo Hurtarte—who also signed for the BCIE—and for Mexico by Secretary of Fisheries Pedro Ojeda Paullada and its Ambassador to Guatemala Diego Valadez.

Hungarian Legislators Visit, Discuss Cooperation
PA0311152388 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish
31 Oct 88 p 3

[Text] During a meeting yesterday, Hungarian legislators and Mexican senators stressed the importance of taking actions to benefit the people and the importance of strengthening efforts to improve the social and economic conditions of developing countries.

The Hungarian delegation was welcomed by Senator Jesus Rodriguez y Rodriguez, Mexican Senate president for the month of November. The head of the visiting delegation, Mihaly Korom, said that the visit to the Mexican Senate is to reciprocate for the Mexican legislators' visit to Hungary in September.

During the meeting held in the Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada Room, the legislators pointed out how Hungary and Mexico have similar views on international issues—particularly the issues of peace and disarmament—and agree on initiatives for national development.

The legislators also discussed the struggle being waged by both Mexico and Hungary to achieve social progress and to improve levels of international understanding. Agricultural and economic problems as well as problems related to the diversification of trade were also discussed.

The Hungarian legislators visited Mexico before departing for Nicaragua and Costa Rica. They noted that it was important for Mexico and Hungary to maintain direct contact with each other to gain a better understanding of their common problems, to benefit from each other's experiences, and to encourage their people's desire to attain freedom and total independence and sovereignty.

Morelos II Satellite Aims at Education

FL0411224788 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
1742 GMT 11 Nov 88

[Text] Mexico City, 4 Nov (NOTIMEX)—The Mexican Secretariat of Communications and Transportation (SCT) has said that 80 percent of the Morelos II satellite will be used by the end of the year, primarily for educational purposes. The SCT said that a total of 500 land stations will be installed before 31 December which will be totally dedicated to transmitting television programs for secondary school students.

The secretariat added that only 28 percent of the satellite's transmissions are currently dedicated to commercial, official, and educational television. Twenty percent

of the satellite's transmissions are dedicated to long distance and rural telephone service while 1.5 percent of the transmissions are dedicated to the Morelos I transponders.

The SCT said that once the Morelos II satellite becomes operational in early 1989 the services that use this type of communications will double their capabilities and the satellite will provide support for Morelos I.

The new satellite will also be used for discontinuous transmissions and a plan of action has been developed for this so that priority services will receive special attention should anything ever happen to the Morelos I satellite.

There are currently 275 land stations that are complemented by 260 other installations that were constructed and installed by those who use such services, such as the Aeromexico flight navigation service, the country's bank and financial system, and by federal organizations with growing communications needs.

Costa Rica

500 Nicaraguan Refugees Arrive; Disease Feared

PA0411182788 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
1501 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] San Jose, 4 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—The Costa Rican Immigration Office reported today that over 500 Nicaraguans, left homeless by Hurricane Joan, arrived this week in Puerto Limon in the Atlantic region.

According to Costa Rican authorities, the homeless are mainly from eastern Nicaragua where, 2 weeks ago, the hurricane destroyed the city and port of Bluefields and other areas that the Sumu and Rama Indians and Creoles call home.

Fearing that they may not receive attention from the Nicaraguan Government, these refugees decided to come to Costa Rica by sea and ask for aid.

Some of the newly arrived Nicaraguans told the medical staff that gave them first aid that other refugees may soon arrive in Costa Rica.

The Immigration Office said that with these additional 500 people, shelters for Nicaraguans are filled to capacity, which has created a new health risk, primarily because the majority of the refugees have malaria or dengue.

Health Ministry officials warned those in charge of examining the refugees to reinforce sanitary precautions to prevent the entry into Costa Rica of dengue, a widespread disease in Nicaragua.

Costa Rican Health Minister Edgar Mohs Villalta said that "The first larvae from mosquitos carrying dengue were found in the tires of some vehicles entering the country from Nicaragua."

All personnel working along the border with Nicaragua and near the Atlantic and Pacific ports have been warned, this includes the police, health and customs officials.

Mohs Villalta noted that if the "massive arrival" of Nicaraguan refugees continues, Costa Rica will need international aid to care for them. He added that it would be ideal if international organizations stepped in to help deal with this problem.

El Salvador

Duarte Comments on UN Human Rights Report

PA0611162488 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish
5 Nov 88 p 32

[Excerpts] President Jose Napoleon Duarte said last night that, as was stated in the annual report by United Nations special rapporteur, Prof Pastor Ridruejo, which was released at the United Nations yesterday, his government is not entirely responsible for violations of the people's human rights.

Duarte said that the greatest problems in that area are being caused by leftist and rightist sectors. He commented that he considered Prof Ridruejo's work very efficient, particularly since the report states that violations of human rights "is not an official policy" of the government. [passage omitted]

President Duarte described as a violation of human rights the recent guerrilla attack on the National Guard Headquarters, in which 4 men were killed and some 30 injured, including the director general, Colonel Jose Humberto Gomez.

According to the president, these actions, added to the attacks on the war economy, "are part of a scheme that the rebels are pursuing. They are desperately seeking notoriety and are achieving it through terrorism."

In response to the intensification of armed actions in San Salvador, President Duarte said that he has ordered all security organizations and the national Army to take measures to protect the civilian population and the country's infrastructure.

Democratic Convergence Begins C.A. Tour

PA0511160788 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo
Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] A Democratic Convergence [CD] delegation headed by Guillermo Manuel Ungo, currently that group's presidential candidate, and including Mario Reni Roldan and Ruben Zamora, have begun a tour of Central America. According to CD member Mauricio Santamaria, the objective of the tour is to meet with the presidents of [words indistinct] Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, and Honduras. They are going to explain the situation in El Salvador and their participation in the next elections. They will also express their willingness to comply with the Esquipulas II peace agreements.

The CD mission met with Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, and Guatemalan Foreign Minister Alfonso Cabrera also attended the meeting [words indistinct] During the meeting [9-second break in reception] 7,000 missing persons in just 8 years. In addition, Ungo said that the conflict in El Salvador has a regional dimension and that the Esquipulas II agreements can greatly contribute to peace in El Salvador. Following the meeting at the presidential office, the CD delegation expressed its satisfaction with the visit.

Venceremos Reports on Tour

PA0411222988 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos
in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] A delegation of the Democratic Convergence, led by Dr Guillermo Manuel Ungo, began a tour of the Central American countries on 2 November. [passage indistinct]

Democratic Convergence leader Hector Oqueli Colindres explained that the objective of the tour is to [words indistinct] the Democratic Convergence's willingness to comply with the Esquipulas II agreements. The delegation is expected to meet with Costa Rican President Oscar Arias on 3 November.

Ungo 'Rules Out War'

PA0611164888 Panama City ACAN in Spanish
2042 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Managua, 5 Nov (ACAN-EFE)—Today in Managua Democratic Convergence (CD) presidential candidate Guillermo Ungo ruled out war as a means of solving the Salvadoran conflict. According to Ungo, there is no possibility for one of the two parties in conflict to achieve a "military victory" in the near future.

After a 1-hour meeting with Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega in Managua, Ungo told the press that guerrilla warfare "is not the way to achieve the Salvadoran people's liberation."

Ungo, leader of the Salvadoran opposition FDR political branch of the insurgency, also stressed the need to search for "other ways to reach an understanding," because there has already been "too much death and destruction" in El Salvador. [passage omitted].

Guillermo Ungo described his meeting with President Daniel Ortega as "open and satisfactory" and said that they talked about "the problems of the Central American people: the war and the economic crisis."

Ungo said that the CD delegation will conclude its visit to Nicaragua tomorrow and return to El Salvador to continue its political struggle despite the "repressive campaign" launched by the ruling Christian Democratic government.

The delegation explained that they are waging their electoral struggle on an unequal basis because "we are victims of constant repression" on the part of the Salvadoran regime.

Honduras Grants Outlet to Atlantic Ocean

PA0411210688 San Salvador Canal Doce
Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The Governments of Honduras and El Salvador—through their respective port authorities—agreed to operate a dry canal when they signed the International Treaty on Merchandise whereby the Salvadorans obtained an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean.

With the signing of this treaty, our country makes a long time dream come true: an outlet to the Atlantic Ocean. This was part of the reason why the war broke out with Honduras in 1969.

Because of the secretive manner in which the treaty was signed, various Honduran groups have protested, and are demanding to know the contents of the treaty for the dry canal. Many opponents of the treaty insist that sovereignty is at stake and their dignity has been offended by offering the facility. The opponents describe El Salvador as a potential enemy because of difficulties along the 469 square km border and also the possession of some islands in the Gulf of Fonseca on the Pacific Ocean are still pending.

Public Works Ministry Employees Declare Strike

PA0411124388 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL
in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Text] Approximately 18,000 workers of the Salvadoran Public Works Ministry have declared an indefinite strike to protest Public Works Minister Luis Lopez Ceron's failure to comply with commitments made 6 months ago.

The partial suspension of work at the ministry and some of its branches began on 24 October and threatens to spread to other government offices, in which approximately 60,000 public servants work. (Luis Villalta), secretary general of the National Association of Public Works Ministry Workers [Asociacion Nacional de Trabajadores del Ministerio de Obras Publicas, ANTMOP] said workers from the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, Public Health Ministry, tourism office, and the mayor's office would show their solidarity with the strike.

The union members are demanding that the government give them uniforms, pay unpaid per diem dating back to 1987, and level off salaries, a point the workers said Lopez promised to fulfill back in May. ANTMOP is an affiliate of the progovernment Central Organization of Salvadoran Workers, CTS, the membership of which comprises about 60,000 state workers.

(Villalta) reported the government has taken a number of repressive actions against the strikers, such as occupying their work centers with troops and preventing the workers from entering them. Answering Lopez' allegations that strikers had violently seized several facilities and that those actions forced him to request military occupation, a union spokesman said that the troops occupying the working centers are the ones causing the destruction and that the union members are not responsible for it. In addition, (Villalta) said the police took 18 union members into custody on 26 October and held them for several hours. He said eight of them were beaten and intensively questioned, after which they were released.

The strikers accuse Lopez Ceron of wrongdoing and demand that the Salvadoran Assembly question him so he can explain what he has spent his office's budget on.

National Police Director on Security Measures
PA0611195088 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora
in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Interview with National Police Director Colonel Carlos Mauricio Guzman Aguilar at National Police Headquarters, San Salvador, by an unidentified reporter; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Guzman] I have been working jointly with the Armed Forces General Staff—not just this week but for several months. I have to add that not only the National Police are involved, but the public security forces and the military corps stationed here in San Salvador. We have reinforcements from the countryside and are working on a joint plan to help minimize terrorist attacks that they will try to carry out and are carrying out at this very moment.

Just to give you an example, right now we are waiting for a demonstration that is to begin at the National University. There will be students together with UNTS [National Union of Salvadoran Workers] members, who are going to march their usual route and end up at the park across from the cathedral.

I want to tell you that they are not going to have any problems as long as they obey the law. As I said a few days ago, we do not want confrontations with anyone. What they want is to confront police and public security forces for the sake of creating a martyr, and we are unwilling to oblige them in this endeavor. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] The attack against the National Guard seems like a campaign against the security corps. We would like to know if the National Police are on alert for an attack in view of the attacks against the National Guard and the Treasury Police?

[Guzman] As I said before, this is not new for us, and we are making plans. You notice that the general headquarters is close to homes. We have already seen in Usulután and in San Francisco Morazán where these people attacked without caring whether they destroyed private property or homes—even killing innocent civilians. We are not exempt from this here. We have a strategy. We even believe there is a possibility of an attack from inside the general headquarters—it is very possible, they have done it before. I remember when they bombed the service station here, destroying three or four vehicles, and they also placed bombs inside the general directorate office. We are doing all we can to try to avoid these problems. We are ready to face any situation. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] What plans have you made for the upcoming OAS general meeting, and what security responsibilities will the National Police have in regard to this meeting?

[Guzman] You must understand these are mainly military plans which we cannot very well disclose in advance. If I started giving out this information, I would be exposing our security operation for the meeting. All I can say is that we are taking this situation very seriously. We have reinforcements from the countryside. Not only is the National Police involved, but the public security corps, as well as other units that have come from the countryside to support this common effort. [passage omitted]

Msgr Rosa Chavez Condemns Violence Escalation
PA0611205688 San Salvador La Voz Panamericana
in Spanish 1400 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Sunday homily by Msgr Gregorio Rosa Chavez, auxiliary bishop of San Salvador, at the Metropolitan Cathedral in San Salvador—live]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Let us examine certain incidents of this past week. Upon my return from Rome after a 2-week absence, I found a worrisome escalation in the country's violence.

During my absence, and following the archbishop's clear views about the defense of human rights, the Archbishopric's Legal Assistance Office vigorously condemned a new practice: the use of car bombs in places civilians frequent and the FMLN assassination of four persons in Apopa.

In the following days, the entire country was shocked at the guerrillas' assassination of three mayors: Lucio Salvador, the old mayor of Sociedad, my hometown; Jose Alberto Lopez, mayor of Guatajiagua; and Jose Ulises Hernandez, mayor of Nueva Granada.

In view of these barbaric actions against civilian officials chosen by the people, we express our vigorous rejection of these acts despite the reasons the guerrillas allege to justify the unjustifiable.

Another worrisome topic is the death squads, a sad and old scourge we cannot get rid of. The new military leaders have a delicate task in this regard. However, the FMLN is not exempt from any responsibility in this matter, because some FMLN actions also present the characteristics of acts committed by the death squads.

Thank God, not everything is bad news, because the people clearly want peace, and all the bishops told the pope that. [passage omitted]

Looking at the Salvadoran situation, the outlook of uncertainty and pain affecting a large sector of our population is still a reason for concern and grief in my heart as a pastor. Violence still leaves destruction and death behind. In effect, the long years of struggle among brothers still cover many Salvadoran homes with mourning. These are homes of families that demand peace and want a reconciled and just fatherland.

Pope John Paul's again fully supported the effort to bring the parties in conflict closer to a dialogue.

However, I do not want to end the homily without repeating the pope's message to all sectors of Salvadoran society.

The Holy Father said: I want to issue a call so all political and union leaders, businessmen and workers, men of culture and science, and parents begin a new moral offensive so with a spirit of solidarity they can achieve the stable and lasting peace they all want so much, a peace the Salvadorans are entitled to. [passage omitted]

Recent FMLN Activities, Attacks Reported

30 Oct-5 Nov

PA0711043188 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2300 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] Radio Farabundo Marti, the guerrilla station, presents a summary of the FMLN's political and military activities for the week 30 October - 5 November. All of our actions this week, whether military, political, or diplomatic, have been characterized by their forcefulness. In addition, the guerrillas' victories this week have coincided with remarkably intense activity among the militant masses.

The guerrillas' political and military activities have resulted in 202 Army casualties, about 50 percent of which have been inflicted on the genocidal National Guard and include the gorilla Gomez, general director of the National Guard. The 202 casualties include 3 corporals, 1 lieutenant, 1 sergeant, and 1 colonel of the genocidal army. We have put them out of action.

A total of 77 casualties have resulted from ambushes along various highways in El Salvador, including the San Salvador-Santa Ana Highway. We have inflicted 202 casualties on the puppet army this week—we have put 202 repressors out of action. [In a similar report Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT 7 November substitutes the following for the last paragraph of the Farabundo Marti report: "During the last 7 days, our guerrillas seized from the enemy during combat 8 G-3 rifles, 20 military kits, 1 PRC-77 radio, 3,000 7.52-mm cartridges, 74 G-3 rifle cartridge clips, 1 M-18 mine, 3 grenades for G-3 rifles, 1 hand grenade, 2 knapsacks, 2 canteens, 2 portable telephones, 2 batteries for PRC-77 radios, and 1 electric generator used for exploding Claymore mines.]

Two Soldiers Killed

PA0611140888 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0602 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] San Salvador, 6 Nov (REUTER)—Witnesses say urban guerrillas in El Salvador last night killed two soldiers in an attack and hurled bombs at the home of the government minister and at a luxurious hotel.

The insurgents sabotaged the public lighting system in the Ramon neighborhood, a large suburb of San Salvador, and shortly after staged a shootout with defense forces in three different places, according to a report issued to the press by Army spokesman Oscar Benedicto Ochoa Rivas.

Two militia members stationed at a guardpost barricaded with sandbags were killed and one wounded. A grenade penetrated one of the walls of the unit's headquarters.

This was the rebels' second attack on a military installation this week in San Salvador. The rebels attacked the National Guard general headquarters on Tuesday, firing mortars that killed 4 soldiers and wounded 30 soldiers and 7 civilians.

The leftist FMLN has extended to the cities the war it has been waging for 9 years in rural areas. The FMLN incursions have taken place despite frequent security operations carried out by government troops.

In another act of violence, suspected guerrillas activated a bomb in front of the home of Public Works Minister Luis Lopez Ceron, causing property damage. No victims were reported. Another bomb was thrown from a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed onto the parking lot of the Sheraton Hotel, located in the exclusive Escalon neighborhood, shortly before the guests for a graduation ball began arriving, the police reported.

National Guard Attacked

PA0411184888 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 4 Nov 88

["War report" from the Modesto Ramirez Central Front on the "Combatant People and Guerrilla Army, One Single Fist Striking for Victory", group's 1 November operation.]

[Text] In this operation our army attacked the National Guard's general headquarters in San Salvador. The attack showed new levels of military capability and organization by our people and army. We have punished a force that has committed criminal acts since its very foundation. The National Guard has been used to defend the interests of exploiters of the people.

Thousands of workers, peasants, students, professionals, and priests have been assassinated in National Guard prisons. Our women have been raped and thousands of patriots have been tortured in those jails.

Today the iron fist of our people and guerrilla army struck and punished the killers. Our people carried this out audaciously and courageously, defying the large-scale military operation in the capital.

The 1 November operation consisted of the following actions:

—The attack on the National Guard general headquarters, with light and heavy weapons, which resulted in 73 casualties, including Colonel Jose Humberto Gomez, director general of the National Guard, one lieutenant, and several non-commissioned officers. Our units destroyed 50 percent of the National Guard general headquarters. They also destroyed 3 dormitories, the administration offices, the officers' club, the communications section, the arsenal, and the bathroom.

—At 1800 urban guerrilla units dispersed propaganda leaflets in several neighborhoods of the capital: in Hula Hula Park, at the La Dalia store, in the Montserrat neighborhood, at the 101 route terminal, and in other places.

—At 1900 an electricity pole was blown up in the Guadeloupe neighborhood in Soyapango. Clandestine militias destroyed secondary electricity lines in Canton El Limon by blowing up two poles and blasting another one at km 8 on the Northern Highway. Guerrilla units also sabotaged electric power in Nejapa, San Antonio Abad, by blowing up two poles there.

—At 1900 a guerrilla group distributed propaganda in Canton Montepeque, San Jose Guayabal jurisdiction. At 2000 two power poles were destroyed on Armed Forces Boulevard, near the Las Brisas neighborhood in Soyapango.

—At 2030 militia members took control of the road between Mejicanos and San Ramon, near Los Albertos Campos, for 45 minutes, during which time our forces set up a road block, painted signs, and lectured the local people.

—At 2100 guerrilla units set off a bomb in the ANTEL [National Administration for Telecommunications] offices in Ciudad Barrios [words indistinct].

Today, 1 November, was a day marked by the numerous actions carried out in the capital [words indistinct] FMLN's "Combatant People and Guerrilla Army, One Single Fist Striking for Victory" group. [passage indistinct]

Villa Victoria Raided

PA0411190088 Hamburg DPA in Spanish
1525 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] San Salvador, 4 Nov (DPA)—This morning FMLN guerrillas raided the town of Villa Victoria, 91 km from San Salvador, and kidnapped five soldiers, according to local sources. The rebel action involved heavy clashes with civil defense forces beginning at 0400 (local) and lasting for over an hour. The mayor's office building was destroyed and two other government offices were damaged in the raid. Also, a mine exploded under a civilian vehicle, injuring two children. The Army has not reported officially on the incident, though it did confirm that a guerrilla was killed and three others injured in a clash in Puerto El Triunfo, Usulután Department.

During the night, the FMLN continued its sabotage campaign against the electric power system by blowing up two electric towers in the city of Nueva San Salvador, 12 km west of the capital.

'10 Oct' Operation Carried Out

PA0511211388 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 5 November broadcasts approximately 20 minutes of reports on recent FMLN actions.

The station cites a report from the Anastacio Aquino Paracentral Front stating that FMLN units "successfully performed the '10 October 1968 Heroes' operation" at 0400 on 4 November. The station explains that the operation involved a guerrilla attack on a civil defense post in Villa Victoria, Sensuntepeque, in Cabanas Department. According to Venceremos, the rebels seized 8 G-3 rifles, 20 military kits, 1 PRC-77 radio, 3,000 7.62-mm cartridges, 64 G-3 rifle cartridge clips, an M-18 mine, 3 G-3 rifle grenades, 1 hand grenade, 2 knapsacks, 2 canteens, 2 microtelephones, 2 batteries for PRC-77 radios, and 1 electronic mine detector. The station also claims the guerrillas captured five prisoners of war and damaged the city hall.

Venceremos also reads the text of a war bulletin issued by the paracentral front, which states that, following the attack on Villa Victoria, the rebels ambushed a vehicle carrying Military Detachment No 2 troops traveling from Sensuntepeque to Villa Victoria. According to the war bulletin, the FMLN inflicted 10 casualties on the Army and destroyed the vehicle.

In addition, the station reports that FMLN units attacked Military Detachment No 1 in Cerro El Gallinero, Chalatenango Department at 0600 on 4 November. Venceremos claims the rebels killed a sergeant and wounded a soldier in the attack. The station further reports that guerrilla units mined the path of a Guazapa Battalion company at El Cerrito, Guazapa at 1100 on 3 November and wounded a soldier.

Sabotage Activity Reported

PA0611191688 [Editorial Report] (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador at 0000 GMT on 6 November airs approximately 10 minutes of war bulletins on recent FMLN actions.

The station reports that at "2300 on 4 November, a guerrilla unit in coordination with clandestine militias attacked the Civil Defense Command in Ciudad Arce, La Libertad Department, with rifle fire, inflicting four enemy casualties and destroying the garrison, while guerrillas sustained no casualties."

The announcer then reads a report from the Feliciano Ama Western Front, stating that "simultaneous to the attack in Ciudad Arce on 4 November, an FMLN

guerrilla unit attacked the Civil Defense Command in Villa El Congo with rifle fire and hand grenades, inflicting at least two casualties on the Civil Defense forces."

The next report says that at 1930 on 4 November members of the Dagoberto Soto Command placed a powerful bomb at the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry in San Miguel, seriously destroying the facilities and two vehicles. The station announcer says that "this sabotage action was to welcome Colonel [Mauricio Ernesto] Vargas to the eastern region."

Other actions reported note that "on 4 November, guerrillas stormed La Concepcion, Quezaltepeque, Chalatenango Department, and detonated two propaganda bombs a few meters from Military Detachment No 1."

Radio Venceremos adds that in another action, "On 2 November, an FMLN guerrilla unit clashed with troops of the Freno Battalion of Military Detachment No 5, near El Roble Canton, Suchitoto jurisdiction, seriously wounding one enemy." The station adds that "at 1400 on that same day, guerrillas ambushed troops from the Freno Battalion near Milingo Canton, on the new road from Suchitoto to San Martin, Cuscatlan Department, wounding one soldier."

Another report says that at 1200 on 5 November, FMLN "guerrillas successfully ambushed a vehicle transporting members of the Treasury Police on the road from Amayo to Nueva Concepcion, Chalatenango Department, inflicting casualties on the enemy."

San Ramon Attacked

PA0711015588 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo
Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 2312 GMT 6 Nov 88

["War bulletin"; date not given—monitored in progress]

[Text] ...consisting of the occupation of the sector of San Ramon and the following activities: attack and occupation of the Civil Defense command post in San Ramon. During this action, the headquarters and trenches were partially destroyed and the Civil Defense command sustained nine casualties, including the commander of that repressive corps of San Ramon. The others fled their positions, abandoning their wounded companions. During this operation, we recovered an M-2 carbine destroyed several missiles as the result of the explosive charges set off by our fierce attack. The bulletin adds that in a simultaneous operation by our urban commandos, two power towers were sabotaged in the Atlanta colony, another 50 meters from Cuartel Plaza, and another on the street leading from Zacamil colony to San Ramon, near Espana colony, for a total of four. Also, vehicles were used to form a barricade on Espana colony No 2.

3. [Number as heard] At the same time, we staged a broad propaganda activity.

4. Our units also attacked units of the paratroopers battalion that were guarding Route 46 near the zone. The enemy was neutralized by our attack.

We announce our units staged these actions amid an operation maintained by the enemy on the outskirts of San Salvador, where it has deployed two companies of the 1st Infantry Brigade—in the sector of San Ramon and San Antonio Abad. Because of their low morale, those troops did not deploy. Our units remained in the area for 1 hour and left without any problem.

We send our greetings to the urban commandos of San Salvador, who are closing in on the enemy, on the dictatorship's rearguard. Our commandos are reaching a superior level of organization and attack. The commando that staged the attack in San Ramon inflicted nine casualties on the enemy, got through enemy lines, neutralized the paratroopers units, sabotaged four power towers, and maintained control of the sector for 1 hour. This deed was possible because of the struggle of the youths who have said no to forceful recruitment and are joining the urban commandos.

Guatemala

New Rebel Front Rejects URNG Protalk Policy
PA0411212488 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO
in Spanish 4 Nov 88 p 6

[Text] Guatemala City, 4 Nov—The division between the guerrilla organizations' political and military fronts has just been demonstrated by the creation of the Central Resistance Front - Guatemalan Labor Party [Frente Central de Resistencia - Partido Guatemalteco del Trabajo] (FCR-PGT), which has asked that the URNG General Command give up its prodialogue position, which it regards as only favoring the Christian Democratic regime's counterinsurgency policy.

The above is inferred from a document published yesterday by the new faction, which claims responsibility for a recent attack and emphasizes "the Guatemalan communists' readiness to continue the revolutionary armed struggle—the only instrument that guarantees justice for the people."

The document is entitled "Justice for the People Is Only Possible With a Weapon in Our Hands!" and states that "on 26 October 1988, a FCR-PGT commando unit carried out a military attack against the urban transportation network owned by Manuel de Jesus Valiente Tellez, a war criminal."

The document states: "This is a warning to those who are trying to negotiate the definition of the people's revolutionary war through conciliatory gestures with our enemies, sponsoring dialogues for a surrender and underestimating the people's hopes for their liberation—which is expressed in the armed struggle."

The FCR-PGT urges the URNG General Command to abandon its prodialogue positions, and even adds the following:

"Such an attitude has only furthered the regime's counterinsurgency policy and has sidetracked the people's movement, limiting its revolutionary activities and rendering it powerless against the new cycle of repression."

All this implies that those in charge of carrying out military orders do not agree with the URNG's political guidelines. URNG General Command members have stated more than once that they are willing to negotiate a solution to Guatemala's internal conflict.

In fact, the URNG has published paid advertisements with messages requesting URNG participation in the "Great National Dialogue." However, the government has always set a condition: You may participate, provided that your members give up the struggle and seek amnesty.

We must bear in mind that several members of the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms, ORPA, sought amnesty during the first half of September, following an attack on Father Giron in which a bodyguard was killed.

On Wednesday, nine members of the Rebel Armed Forces, FAR, also sought amnesty, turning themselves in to the Army in Nueva Concepcion. The deserters argue that they were tired, that they had been deceived, and that they lacked the people's support.

By the way, military commanders have commented that this proves that the guerrilla forces are crumbling.

Honduras

Azcona on Callejas Charges, UN Proposal
PA0411234588 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish
4 Nov 88 p 3

[Interview with President Jose Azcona Hoyo by unidentified TIEMPO reporter in Yoro, Yoro Department; date not given]

[Text] [TIEMPO] [National Party President] Rafael Leonardo Callejas has charged that in your 3 years in power, bureaucracy has increased and that the fiscal deficit has increased from \$46 million to \$700 million.

[Azcona] That is completely false. The statements are untrue. Bureaucracy has not increased, unless by bureaucracy he means the hiring of more doctors and nurses to improve health services and the hiring of more teachers for the primary and high schools. If teachers are bureaucrats, then we have indeed increased bureaucracy.

[TIEMPO] Rafael Leonardo Callejas and Roberto Ramon Castillo also accuse you of spending more than the 50 million lempiras allocated in the national budget.

[Azcona] I carefully read what he (Callejas) said, and I must say it is completely contradictory because he said the budget has been exceeded, but with Congress' approval. He also said money has been invested in public works. What is wrong? If Congress approves it and the money has been well invested, what is the problem?

[TIEMPO] Is it a campaign of false accusations?

[Azcona] I would not say it is a campaign of false accusations. It is a campaign to seek more votes for Rafael Leonardo Callejas' candidacy, and I doubt very much that at this stage he will be successful on the last Sunday in November 1989.

[TIEMPO] Will there be changes in your cabinet?

[Azcona] That would depend on what the president deems convenient. I do not accept any sort of pressure from any political or economic sector. This falls under the president's purview; I have to decide whether or not I will change ministers.

[TIEMPO] Lately, it is being insistently suggested that Battalion 3-16 exists. Does it exist or not?

[Azcona] I happened to talk about this specific subject with the Armed Forces commander in chief today. He told me that Battalion 3-16 was not dissolved, it was deactivated. There is no reason why I should doubt the Armed Forces commander's word.

[TIEMPO] Has Honduras made a formal proposal at the United Nations to create an international peace force?

[Azcona] We are awaiting the UN response to this. Honduras is always being attacked but it must also be helped.

[TIEMPO] When will the third protocol [with the United States] be signed?

[Azcona] The third protocol is not ready yet. In any case, the National Congress is the body that must approve it.

Foreign Minister Explains Peace Proposal to Pope
PA0411210188 Tegucigalpa Voz De Honduras
Network in Spanish 1120 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Carlos Lopez Contreras explained to Pope John Paul II the chief points of the 4 October Honduran proposal at the UN General Assembly. Honduras requested the creation of an international peacekeeping force on the Honduran borders with Nicaragua and El Salvador. The meeting between his holiness and the foreign minister was held in Vatican City in

the morning. The pope told the Honduran foreign minister the Holy See favors any efforts to seek peace in Central America. He added that one must not tire in that humanitarian goal. [passage omitted]

Armed Forces 'Deactivate' Intelligence Battalion
PA0411220588 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras
Network in Spanish 1755 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Resolution No 2192 issued by General Humberto Regalado Hernandez, commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces, in Tegucigalpa; date not given]

[Text] The commander in chief of the Armed Forces resolves:

1. To deactivate, effective 1 September 1987 [as heard], the following units: the Logistics Support Command of the Armed Forces, the Communications Corps of the Armed Forces, and Intelligence Battalion 316.

2. To activate, effective 1 September 1988, the following units: the 1st Communications Battalion and the Logistics Support Command of the Army.

Armed Forces Spokesman Claims Border Area 'Calm'
PA0511031188 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena
in Spanish 0100 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Statements by Armed Forces spokesman Colonel Manuel Suarez Benavides in Honduras on 3 November—recorded]

[Excerpt] The situation at the border is completely calm. The claims in the aide-memoire [distributed by the Nicaraguan Embassy in Tegucigalpa] are totally false. The document clearly illustrates the Nicaraguan Government's policy toward Honduras in the last few weeks. Nicaragua has accused Honduras of waging attacks and has fostered a warmongering climate in the border area.

The document was written to make the Nicaraguan people believe Honduras actually intends to attack their country, something we categorically deny. We in the Armed Forces are trying to work together with the Honduran Government in the peace process and in the government's actions of [words indistinct].

There has thus far been no deployment to the border areas; there has been no increase of personnel assigned to the border areas; the Honduran Armed Forces harbor no warmongering feelings toward the Nicaraguan people. [passage omitted]

Nicaragua

Ortega Speaks on Salvadoran Delegation Visit
PA0511175288 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
1635 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Speech by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra at the Presidential Press and Information Directorate in Managua following a meeting with a visiting Salvadoran delegation led by Democratic Convergence Party presidential candidate Guillermo Ungo and including party members Mario Reni Roldan and Ruben Zamora; date not given—live or recorded]

[Text] This morning we have been speaking to members of El Salvador's Democratic Convergence Party [CD]—Comrade Ungo, Comrade Zamora, and Comrade Roldan. As everyone knows, Nicaragua, as a signer of the Esquipulas agreement, is very interested in a peaceful solution to the conflicts in the Central American region.

We all know that U.S. policy, as well as the injustice and lack of freedom experienced by the Central American people, are key factors in the destabilization of the region and have led to the people's revolutionary struggle.

At Esquipulas, we as Central American presidents made the decision to work seriously toward peace. Within the Esquipulas context, working toward peace meant, first of all, that we ourselves had to determine the solutions to our problems in the Central American region without yielding to the pressures exerted by the U.S. Government. The Nicaraguan Government, complying with the Esquipulas agreements, opened a negotiation process with the U.S. Government's mercenaries, which led to the Sapoa agreement. Later, however, the U.S. Government exerted pressure on the mercenary forces and cut the Sapoa negotiating process short. Since that time, it has refused to renew the talks that were taking place here in Managua.

In other words, the Nicaraguan Government has been meeting the goal of promoting a dialogue with the Yankee government's mercenaries to find peace.

Meanwhile, we have learned of the Salvadoran revolutionary movement's determination to hold a dialogue with the government in El Salvador. Such a dialogue has not been possible because there has not yet been a positive response from the Salvadoran Government.

We all expressed our obligation to honor the Esquipulas agreement with firm willingness. President Duarte himself expressed this willingness. Therefore, the Salvadoran Government is obligated to accept an immediate dialogue with El Salvador's revolutionary forces. It is obligated to begin a dialogue and to expand on this dialogue to work for peace.

But U.S. policy is not interested in peace in Central America. It is seeking a military solution. On one hand it wants to eradicate the Nicaraguan revolution, and on the other it wants to crush the people's movement in El Salvador. The most warmongering positions—the most conservative and reactionary positions—prevail in the United States, and they endanger the implementation of the Esquipulas peace agreements.

The electoral campaign is now under way in the United States. As we near the presidential election, we hear aggressive and interventionist speeches that threaten the Central American region. In the United States, U.S. officials and representatives—the very people who defend Mr Bush's stance—and other U.S. officials are saying that a U.S. military intervention in El Salvador is almost inevitable if the Salvadoran people keep fighting and struggling as they have been doing, thus endangering the U.S. proposals and interests in El Salvador.

Logically, we must condemn this because it does not help the Esquipulas agreement. It does not help the Central American peoples search for peace. We, Central American rulers, must demand that the current administration, and the one to come following the November elections, respect the Esquipulas II agreements, refrain from meddling in Central American politics, and quit talking about U.S. intervention in Central America.

At any rate, we, Central Americans, will settle our own problems. Here are our comrades....

[Announcer interrupting] We have just carried remarks by Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega Saavedra following his meeting with comrades of the Salvadoran CD—CD presidential candidate Comrade Guillermo Ungo, vice presidential candidate Mario Reni Roldan, and CD coordinator Ruben Zamora. Thank you.

President Tours Hurricane-Affected Areas
PA0511044288 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
4 Nov 88 p 1-B

[Text] Wiwili—The damage caused by Hurricane Joan throughout the country is becoming more and more apparent. In a tour on 2 November, President Daniel Ortega ascertained the serious damage suffered by Wiwili, Bocay, El Cua, Pantasma, Bocaycito, Asturias, El Cedro, Wamblan, El Carmen, and Plan de Grama.

The Coco River, which splits Wiwili in half, was 15 meters above its normal water level. At Wiwili No 1, where the greatest commercial activity exists, the river destroyed and washed away many houses.

It is important to note the great work done by the North Directorate peasants, who organized emergency brigades and political - ideological brigades and, in cooperation with EPS troops and Interior Ministry personnel, evacuated residents to higher ground to avoid additional personal losses.

Hurricane Joan left the North Directorate with 697 families homeless—a total of 3,865 people—and it damaged 452 homes, of which 325 were completely destroyed and 125 partly destroyed.

The following were also destroyed: La Maranosa Bridge, which left communications with Wiwili interrupted, and El Dorado Bridge; 80 km of roads; 1.5 km of electrical wiring; 46 coffee-processing plants; and 56 shellers.

The hurricane caused great production losses, affecting the following areas: 1,601.5 manzanas of coffee, 7,482 of corn, 254 of beans, and 16 of rice.

This information is incomplete because there are communities that still lack communication, so many losses are not yet known.

Despite the seriousness of the damage, the heroic and fighting peasants, who know how to face mercenary forces, are willing to continue working; their main task is to harvest the coffee using mules because there are many communities without roads.

Accompanying President Ortega on his tour were Colonel Oswaldo Lacayo, deputy EPS commander; Colonel Manuel Salvatierra, Military Region No 6 commander; Planning and Budget Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca; Minister of Information and Press Manuel Espinoza; and Comrade Noel Escobar, Region No 6 government representative.

There were a total of 16 people killed in the area; 1 in Bocay, 9 in Bocaycito, 2 in Abisinia, and 4 in Wiwili.

Praises Continuing Cuban Aid
PA0511230988 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish
2016 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Statement by President Daniel Ortega; place not given—live; broadcast in progress]

[Text] ...the hurricane and the damaged houses. The FSLN National Directorate and the Nicaraguan Government decided to send Defense Minister General of the Army Humberto Ortega to Cuba to meet with Comrade Fidel Castro and discuss the aid Cuba has been giving us and the aid it will continue to offer our country.

During Comrade Humberto Ortega's meeting with Comrade Cuban President Fidel Castro [10-second break in reception] to rebuild Bluefields where 1,000 concrete homes will be built. The first 500 concrete homes, which will have concrete roofs—homes designed and built to guarantee safety for the families living in them should a similar disaster strike—will be built in 1989 and the other 500 homes in 1990.

When we speak of building new homes, we also speak of building all those things that make up a neighborhood. We are talking about schools, health centers, parks,

churches, and streets. Cuba will provide the construction material as well as a construction brigade made up of 300 Cuban comrades. The residents of the community that will benefit from this aid will also help construct those 1,000 homes. The food that will be needed to feed the members of the construction brigade and the 1,000 families for whom the homes are being built will also be provided by the people and government of Cuba. Comrade Fidel has also expressed his willingness to continue offering emergency aid [5- second break in reception] 482 tons of food totaling 1,000 tons of food sent to help overcome our country's emergency.

It was also agreed to ship eight generators; 18,000 square meters of Nicalit [not further identified] and all the necessary material to build roofs for warehouses, health centers, and hospitals; 3,500 sheets of zinc; and five water trucks to bring water to the towns deprived of this service by the recent hurricane.

In this way, Cuba again immediately answered the Nicaraguan people's call for help in the face of the devastating effects of the storm. These 1,000 concrete homes for Bluefields will surely encourage other governments and countries to offer this kind of assistance so we can rebuild Bluefields and other towns, such as El Rama and Wiwili, that were badly damaged by the hurricane.

In the name of the Nicaraguan people, the FSLN's National Directorate, and the Nicaraguan Government, we are expressing, through the Cuban ambassador, who is here, our deep appreciation for this unconditional, friendly assistance from Cuba for the Nicaraguan people.

Ortega Sends Message of Support to 'Arafat
PA0511203788 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

["Text" of message from President Daniel Ortega to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the PLO Executive Committee; date and place not given]

[Text] Dear Commander 'Arafat: On behalf of the government, the FSLN and its members, and myself, we convey our most sincere greetings and best wishes to you as a representative of the heroic fighters for the Palestinian cause, on the occasion of the National Council of Palestine, which will take place in Algiers from 12 - 14 November 1988. Our government and our party, along with all the Nicaraguan people, have closely followed the entire consultation process you have undertaken prior to this historic meeting, in which important decisions will be made and which will mark a qualitative and quantitative step in your just struggle. Our militant solidarity is always with you, and we are always willing to support the measures that are adopted at this important event. They will be the free and sovereign decisions of a people in defense of their inalienable rights, their existence, and their right to have their own territory, free from Zionism

occupation, to guide their own destiny. We reiterate our greetings and our revolutionary friendship, and we bid you a fraternal farewell. Free fatherland or death!

[Signed] Daniel Ortega Saavedra

New USSR Envoy Says Soviet Aid To Increase
PA0511162988 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] Soviet aid to Nicaragua will not only be maintained, but will be increased, Valeriy Nikolayenko, new Soviet ambassador to Nicaragua, said yesterday afternoon at a news conference.

In regard to his country's military aid to Nicaragua, Nikolayenko said this aid was strictly for defensive purposes and that Ronald Reagan's government had not responded to a Soviet proposal regarding a reduction in the shipment of weapons to the actors in the Central American drama.

Ambassador Nikolayenko emphasized that the USSR has never had, does not have, and will not have military bases in Nicaragua or in any other Central American country. He dismissed statements made by a Nicaraguan deserter, who said in the United States that the Soviet Union had delivered five warplanes to the Sandinist government. Deserters are not reputable people, Nikolayenko said. Nikolayenko also pointed out that the Soviet Government would like to mediate in the Central American conflict, as long as those involved in the conflict request Soviet mediation. He added that the USSR is already playing a role as mediator as a result of its talks with the United States. He said some Central American countries, along with the Reagan Administration, were obstacles to the Contadora Group peace process and to the Esquipulas II peace agreements. He said it was improbable that U.S. policy toward Nicaragua would change in the few remaining days of the current administration since President Reagan has adopted a very stubborn position in this regard. The Soviet ambassador said it was obvious that the contras wanted to see the Sapoa negotiations fail since they have refused to return to the negotiating table with the Sandinist government. When asked if the USSR would be willing to help out the FMLN guerrillas in El Salvador, he replied: The Cuban and Nicaraguan revolutions succeeded without Soviet participation. We do not see any reason to participate in this case either since we believe all peoples and countries should seek their own destiny without foreign intervention.

Maj Wheelock Refutes Honduran Army Communique
PA0611180088 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1200 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Report on statements by Major Ricardo Wheelock, chief of military intelligence of the EPS, to unidentified newsmen on 4 November; place not given]

[Text] Maj Ricardo Wheelock, chief of military intelligence of the EPS, has reiterated charges that the Honduran Army is guilty of frequent provocations against

Nicaragua, and he reported that two new attacks were carried out at border posts near Santo Tomas del Nance in the western part of the country.

Maj Wheelock rejected the terms of a Honduran Army communique issued in response to Nicaragua's charges. He said that basically the communique confirms the Nicaraguan Government position. The Honduran Army communique was published in the newspaper LA PRENSA.

The military intelligence chief said that, at the Murupuchi post alone, the Honduran Army has carried out 23 attacks in the past 2 months.

[Begin recording] [Wheelock] We talked with you a few days ago and gave you solid and objective information on a number of events. If you listen carefully to the Honduran Army communique, you will note a number of epithets and adjectives, such as false, absurd, and reckless.

However, the communique itself shows that we are right. They [Honduran officials] deny, they say it is untrue that they have moved troops to the border. They also say that they did not carry out the Fonseca Gulf attack. When we spoke over Radio Sandino, we reported 23 attacks on the Murupuchi post alone, not to mention the innumerable attacks that we have sustained from the Honduran Army throughout the months of September and October.

At 1145 on 3 November—that is, yesterday—Honduran Army troops harassed two border guard posts at Cementerios and Vado Ancho, located 1 and 2 km from Santo Tomas del Nance, respectively. They used FAL rifles and M-60 machine guns.

This also shows that our charges are not false, absurd, or reckless. It is very easy to try to deny the incidents that have taken place by using, as I said yesterday, epithets, adjectives and the language of cheap lawyers to try to blot out the sun with a single finger.

The international community is well aware of the fact that the main Nicaraguan contra forces, the Reagan administration's main forces, are in the Arenales area, in Honduran territory, defended, supplied, aided, maintained, and nurtured by the Honduran Army.

The Honduran Army communique basically shows that we are right. They say that they have not moved troops. We could show with intelligence data that they have reinforced the entire border in the past 2 months. They also deny the attack on the Fonseca Gulf. In other words, they accept the rest of our charges by not commenting on them, by remaining silent.

I wanted to comment on those aspects of the communique which, basically, if read carefully, show that we are right in the charges that we have calmly made in a very responsible manner.

[Reporter] Maj Wheelock, are you saying that the latest attack took place yesterday?

[Wheelock] At 1145 near Cementerios and Vado Ancho. These localities are located at 1 and 2 km from Santo Tomas del Nance respectively.

[Reporter] Major, I would like to ask something else. There have been reports of efforts by Honduras to have an international peace force verify and supervise the border areas that are susceptible to confrontations and problems. If we are not mistaken, so far nothing has been resolved regarding this, which apparently has remained just a Honduran proposal made in the United States.

[Wheelock] That is so, but more than this, when the time came to firm up the proposal, Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto presented himself to the Secretary of State, while the Honduran foreign minister claimed that he had commitments to meet in Honduras and left immediately for that country. There is another important fact. The proposal has certain defects in form. Honduras proposes that the FRG participate, but the FRG Constitution indicates that, because it is a member of NATO, it cannot provide that kind of service outside FRG territory, unless the request comes from a group of countries. In other words, unless the Central American countries request it, there is no point in Honduras making such a proposal.

There are other problems with that proposal, which was used as a propaganda ploy, but when the time came to discuss it, the Honduran foreign minister politically withdrew.

[Reporter] Maj Wheelock, how do you interpret the fact that the communique, which was issued allegedly to deny certain specific incidents reported by Nicaragua, contains the allegation that Nicaragua is increasing its campaign against the United States as that country prepares for elections on 8 November? What does the Honduran matter have to do with defense of the United States?

[Wheelock] Nothing, absolutely nothing. However, they [Honduran officials] defend U.S. interests. Honduras is the main lackey of the United States in Latin America. Logically, they want to defend their master. The United States has nothing to do with this. This is a very typical recourse of outmoded politicians—to resort to epithets, vulgarities, and confrontations involving elements that are not under discussion. Nicaragua has denounced the concentration of counterrevolutionary forces in Honduran territory. Nicaragua has denounced the Honduran Army's reinforcement of the border between the two countries, and Nicaragua has denounced the continuous harassment of Nicaraguan posts by Honduran troops. Why? Because this could lead to a confrontation. So far, we have not responded to these provocations. [end recording]

Costa Rican Ambassador Returns To Managua
PA0511003588 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO
in Spanish 4 Nov 88 p 8

[Text] Costa Rican Ambassador to Nicaragua Farid Ayales returned from his home country last night saying he is "happy to go back to Nicaragua."

The diplomat, who has been serving in this post for a long time, said the diplomatic relations between the two countries are in good standing and that he expects them to get even stronger.

He also said the two countries want the pacification process in the region to continue progressing. "A great effort has been made, but there is still much to do."

A few days ago, the Nicaraguan Government criticized Ambassador Ayales' actions—which, according to the Foreign Ministry, were "incompatible with the Vienna Convention on diplomatic relations."

The official had apparently taken a negative stance regarding Nicaragua's domestic affairs. Because of this, the Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry had reported the ambassador's stance to the Costa Rican Government.

Nevertheless, the usual cautious diplomatic practice had been set aside and the matter was unduly publicized and manipulated by the media.

Georgian USSR Cultural Delegation Arrives
PA0511002488 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish
1930 GMT 3 Nov 88

[Summary] A Georgian USSR cultural delegation has arrived in Managua. The 25 Georgian artists will participate in a cultural event to be held in Managua and will tour various departments. The delegation is led by Georgian Health Minister (Irakli Venaseraky), who said the funds collected from the performances will be donated to help the hurricane victims.

*** Daily Justifies 'Responsible' Reporting**
32480015a Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish
6 Oct 88 p 2

[LA PRENSA Editorial: "An Unjust Order, Without Right and Without Reason"]

[Text] With the courtesy that is due the authorities, LA PRENSA is publishing on today's front page two hasty documents from the Interior Ministry in which, regrettably, it again incorrectly quotes the country's laws and again displays its ignorance of the legal provisions governing the exercise of freedom of expression in Nicaragua.

Under Somozism there was the so-called "Law of Rectifications," under which a newspaper was obliged to publish any rectification or letter of clarification on the same page, in the same typeface and with the same

prominence as the news item in question. Naturally Somozism wanted to use this law to turn the independent newspapers into publications that were full of rectifications, whether justified or not, that would make them daily collections of letters and thus do away with their ability to inform.

This law is no longer in force, though the officials in the Mass Media Department of the Interior Ministry do not seem to realize this, as they have erroneously invoked it in a strange nostalgia for the legalistic mechanisms of Somozism. Nor can that department endeavor, as it is doing, to keep an issue of a newspaper off the street unless it includes the communique that the Interior Ministry wants published on a given date and in such and such a spot on such and such a page. This goes beyond the abuse of authority to a simple mania for control, which at times creates an odd and frenzied pique in the department's personnel.

Getting to the core of the issue, we will gladly comment on each of the cases and on the remarks that the hotheaded girls in the Interior Ministry's Media Department made to us in the violent ukases that they addressed with feminine ferocity to our editorial office.

It is obvious that for several weeks very peculiar events with broad repercussions have been taking place around the country and that military elements have been prominent actors in them. First of all, there have been countless incidents of harassment of, threats against and pressure on all opposition elements all over the country. The newspapers and radio and television stations controlled by the government have helped to create a climate of threats against any individual or organization that says anything against the Sandinist Party.

Eleazar Herrera

The first case is that of conservative leader Eleazar Herrera, whose brutal murder in a deserted spot has still not been completely cleared up. The authorities contend that the husband of a girl, jealous because she was having an affair with Eleazar, organized a group of three individuals, including members of and deserters from the army, who got together to kill Mr Herrera in a vendetta of passion.

But there are no grounds for this account. The defendants asserted that they were forced to confess this under physical pressure from the police. Mr Herrera's widow says that the story could not possibly be true, asserting that the girl in question enjoyed her complete trust and respect. After being subjected to unusual physical examinations by the police, the girl herself roundly denies the relationship with Mr Herrera, for whom she says she had great respect and esteem. One of Mr Herrera's daughters was expelled from the courtroom and denied access to the trial. Mr Herrera's family withdrew their lawyer's power of attorney to charge the defendants when he

contended publicly that there were no grounds for proving the charges against them. The trial judge locked himself up in his office with the defendants and turned what ought to have been an incident investigated as openly as possible into a mystery.

As we can see, the case of Mr Eleazar Herrera is not at all crystal clear; rather, it is an incident that is riddled with confusion. And let the record show for the first time that LA PRENSA has not hinted at any responsibility of the government in the case, as the Interior Ministry communique claims; rather, it has merely set forth the contradictions that have emerged in this regard, in the voices of the individuals who have expressed them, contradictions that still remain and that do not allow the Herrera case to be considered closed. We will overlook the arrest of Mr Bonifacio Miranda Bengoechea, as it would be a waste of time to comment on an incident of such scant importance.

Francisco Aguilera Ruiz

An incident that was indeed as dreadful as the one involving Mr Herrera had to do with Francisco Aguilera Ruiz, the independent liberal leader whom men in military uniforms murdered in his own home in the town of Totogalpa. In this case these individuals had organized another execution squad to wreak revenge for a love affair, according to the official account. Once again, as in the Herrera case, a wronged husband, instead of resolving a personal problem face to face, as is customary, or of killing his rival himself, so as not to leave witnesses, organized an entire team, which unfortunately ran into an armed Aguilera who defended himself. The group confessed, but the person allegedly behind the vendetta, whom Aguilera Ruiz wounded seriously in self-defense, survived with a slug from a 22 Magnum in his chest, got behind the wheel of a vehicle, a heavy one according to the official account, and drove more than 150 kilometers to seek treatment in a hospital. Nothing has been heard of him or about his health since the day of the attack.

For the second time LA PRENSA merely set forth these clear-cut contradictions and absurdities. It did not blame the government, as the impassioned communique from the young female officials in the Media Department claim; rather, it pointed out by way of logical deduction that it was a coincidence worthy of investigation that in a brief period of time two groups that included military personnel armed with assault rifles killed, at no risk to themselves, two of the most prominent leaders of the country's northern region, one a conservative, the other a liberal.

Burial in Ciudad Sandino

The communique then mentions an odd procession of six policemen who arrived one night at the cemetery in Ciudad Sandino, their faces covered with masks, to bury a rotting body wrapped in a plain sheet. It was, explained

the police, the body of a man who had drowned in the streams flooded by the winter rains and was found floating in the lake. Without further ado he was wrapped in a piece of cloth, hauled over to the cemetery at 2200 hours and buried, according to the witnesses, in a shallow ditch.

In other words, a man is found drowned, and the Managua Police, in spite of their penchant for communiques, are unable to issue one reporting that these human remains have turned up, nor calling on anyone to identify them, nor wondering whether someone has disappeared and could be the person whose body was found in a decomposed state. By ignoring the dignity of a human being, regardless of his financial status, the police have thus given rise to the mystery that caught the attention of the residents of Ciudad Sandino with a late-night burial marked by a ghostly air made worse by the use of masks. If the police had announced at the time that they had found a man's body and had buried it without identifying him, there would have been no mystery.

Joaquin Mejia

The communique from the nervous girls at the Interior Ministry's Media Department then refers to Joaquin Mejia, who barely escaped death in a brutal attack by four thugs in full daylight in downtown Managua.

We do not know whether Carlos Nunez, a member of the Board of Directors of the Sandinist Party, came up with the quickest solution to the crime. With a keenness worthy of the finest detectives in mass-produced novels, he opined in the National Assembly that the opponents of the Sandinist Party kidnapped and beat Mejia so that the Sandinist government would be blamed and thus discredited.

The only thing that we can say with certainty is that the police were able to solve, in their own way and in a matter of hours, cases as difficult as those of Herrera and Aguilera, whereas they still does not have the slightest lead in the case involving Mejia. This is not our fault, and LA PRENSA is not insinuating anything in this connection. The facts speak for themselves.

Quezalguaque

LA PRENSA is not playing up the incident involving the three deaths in Quezalguaque either. It is the secretary general of the CUS [Confederation for Trade Union Unity], Mr Alvin Guthrie, who has established that two active members and one candidate for membership in the CUS were brutally slain by another squadron of men wearing military uniforms, once again with the fateful AK-47 rifles. Guthrie mentions the names on the registration cards of two of the slain men and states that the three victims had been threatened and were probably under surveillance for their union activities. In support of his claim Mr Guthrie sent a letter to the highest authority, the president of the republic, repeating his

arguments and asking him for an in-depth investigation. At the same time, labor leader Nilo Salazar says that he is being harassed with death threats. LA PRENSA is not making these facts up, nor is it creating this climate of tension; it is only reporting them.

The official version is that this brutal attack, which is similar to the one in San Salvador's Zona Rosa, was a holdup attempt. Once again it was a gang in uniform and armed with assault rifles, which only the government has at present, this time seeking money, not revenge for a love affair. But if one can calmly rob three inebriated men and one terrified waitress, why brutally murder them? There is nothing unusual about the fact that one, two or three of the slain men were military personnel. Under the Obligatory Service Law who is not military personnel in Nicaragua?

Perhaps the young girls in the Interior Ministry's Mass Media Department could explain this, even though they have already closed the case, since on line 10 of paragraph 9 in their communique they say, referring to three peasant boys killed in Quezalguaque, that (and we quote) "they were brutally slain by common criminals."

It is obvious that the person signing his name to an assertion like this has full knowledge of what actually happened in that bar in Quezalguaque, because not even the police has yet dared to make such a categorical assertion and is still investigating. It is interesting to note that 24 hours later EL NUEVO DIARIO published the names of three suspects in the crime, but their names have not been mentioned since.

Reflections

We naturally reject as nonsense the suggestion that LA PRENSA has reported on all of the atrocities that have been committed so that Ronald Reagan will obtain the military funding that he has requested. A more sober and responsible attitude is required at this critical moment. The obvious fact is that for some days now gangs of men in uniform carrying weapons that only the army possesses have been committing brutal crimes that invariably have elements in common or similar features. We have merely reported these extremely serious developments out of obedience to the instructions of our pastor, Cardinal Miguel Obando, to "defend life." And as citizens we have issued the warning that the country could be on the verge of a maelstrom of violence, revenge and more violence, from which we can still escape if instead of harassing the mass media, the authorities were to take control of the situation and truly guarantee respect for the lives of all Nicaraguans.

*** Work of Territorial Troops Described**
32480015b Managua BARRICADA in Spanish
3 Oct 88 pp 1, 4

[Report by Martha Marina Gonzalez]

[Text] El Coyolar, Yali—They are wet and shivering from the cold. Their boots are almost falling apart. A bonfire provides some warmth. "Los Cachorros" [the

pups] are sitting next to their backpacks, rifles, and radios. They tune in to a station, and someone says: "I heard there was going to be a party this Saturday." The faces of some turn sad as they remember their girlfriends.

"Don't think about it," says one lad; "let's get together and have our own party." In a matter of seconds they start to "boogie" to the rhythm of "Juana la Cubana." Others rest under their crude shelters.

The combatants of the Permanent Companies of Territorial Troops (COPETE) maintain a fast pace. They have almost no time to rest and in their free time do a little of everything, except stop worrying about the enemy so as not to be taken by surprise.

They never remain in the same place. They have gained skill in combat and have mastered nature. Their physical strength is impressive.

They lack many things. At times they go without mosquito repellent, but get used to it over time. Many do not have a second uniform. Nor do they have cooking utensils. The peasants at times lend them pans, and this is an opportunity to eat well. Otherwise, their favorite dish is rice.

Whenever Los Cachorros have time, they receive political instruction, listen to the news on the radio, and read BARRICADA carefully to keep up with events. Some members of COPETE 36-74 in Yali do not know how to read, and the platoon's political activist pays special attention to them; the war has also prevented them from learning to read and write.

They have made the attempt and have even been given notebooks, but when least expected they have to leave on combat missions, and since they do not have rain gear, the sheets of paper get wet, and that is as far as it has gone.

Good Examples

The main mission of the company commander is to assure his troops' teamwork, unity, brotherhood, and combat readiness. First Lieutenant Jose Alejandro Aguilar, the commander of the Yali COPETE, relates that as commander he must set an example to combat the weaknesses of his subordinates. Knowing how to listen, solving problems, maintaining discipline, and applying the policy of incentives are part of his responsibilities.

This company consists solely of Cachorros from the Patriotic Military Service; the only permanent EPS personnel is the commander. He has posted many victories in combat in his long career. The Contras do not stand up to these boys; when they realize that the COPETE from Yali is pursuing them, they retreat in disorder.

The unit's combat history is very long, but the Cachorros' commander summarizes it by citing one example. "Before the cease-fire the superior command undertook the mission of verifying the presence of some guardsmen. We tracked them. At nightfall we camped there, in the Capire mountains, and at 0600 hours we went after them."

They proceeded cautiously, ready to fire. At around 0800 hours they clashed with 200 guardsmen; there were just 45 EPS combatants. The battle lasted 2 hours, and the result was: four Contras killed and seven wounded, and one Sandinist slightly wounded.

The Contras were desperate in the face of the Cachorros' bravery and tried to launch two offensives to remove their dead and wounded but were unable to. The only thing left for them to do was acknowledge defeat.

Panama

Palma on Dialogue, Union Leader's Departure
PA0511022188 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Interview with Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, by unidentified reporters in Panama City on the occasion of flag day on 4 November; broadcast in progress—recorded]

[Text] [Solis Palma] ...it is a message filled with love for the fatherland, with respect for our flag, our symbol, and of a permanent struggle so the flag will always wave with dignity, respect, courage, and a determination to struggle for the well-being of all Panamanians. That is our commitment with the fatherland's symbols on this day. That is our commitment with the Panamanian people.

I think this is a good occasion to state that although we did not hold a parade today, as I said yesterday, we are paying perhaps the best homage to the Panamanian fatherland in this month of independence festivities. That homage is to help the country's needy segments, those who have been abandoned for so many years and for which we should all feel responsible for, especially those of us who in one way or another have had the opportunity to help those segments that have remained in practically the same state since the 1821 independence. Independence did not exactly take place to liberate them but other segments. Therefore, we Panamanians have a commitment to fulfill, and today I issue a fervent call to all the country's patriots, to all Panamanians without distinction, so that now will be the beginning of national rectification.

[Reporter] What about the national government's willingness to hold a dialogue with the opposition sectors to achieve the longed for national agreement?

[Solis Palma] We have always expressed our willingness to talk with all segments of the country. However, we have stated that there can be no preconditions for a dialogue. The only precondition is to place the fatherland, the nation, the country first. That is the only precondition we can accept. Within this framework, we are willing to talk and seek a harmonious solution for the republic. If this does not occur, we will continue struggling for the well-being of the majority of Panamanians.

[Reporter] Yesterday, Isaac Rodriguez [secretary general of the union of workers of the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification] had to leave the country. Any comments on this?

[Solis Palma] In addition to the official reports, I saw that Channel 4 [Circuito RPC Television] paid much attention to Isaac Rodriguez' departure. I would have loved to have seen when Isaac Rodriguez paralyzed the electrical system, causing a death and so many problems. Channel 4 would have reproached that kind of leadership, which harms the nation's welfare. I would have loved to have seen Channel 4 pay attention to him not when he left the country, but when he harmed the country. I have great affection for Channel 4, and it hurts me to see it lose its way, its course, and its sight of the real Panamanian fatherland.

FDP Terms U.S. Charges 'Ridiculous,' 'Absurd'
PA0511044488 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0300 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Panama City, 4 Nov (ACAN - EFE)—Major Edgardo Lopez Grimaldo, spokesman for the Panama Defense Forces [FDP], described as "ridiculous and absurd" the alleged charges made by the Southern Command stationed in Panama to the effect that Panamanian Air Force planes made "dangerous" flights over "command" installations and near Howard Air Force Base.

The flights were reportedly made at a height of 400 feet, which would violate international flight rules of the International Civil Aviation Organization.

The charge was made in today's THE TROPIC TIMES, official publication of the Southern Command, according to which the pilots of the Panamanian planes did not make contact with the Howard Air Force Base control tower when entering its traffic zone, in addition to flying at heights that are not permitted.

"It is ridiculous to attribute that operation to the FDP," added Lopez Grimaldo, who said he had no knowledge of a formal protest from the United States to the Panamanian counterpart of the Combined Canal Defense Board. [passage omitted]

Lopez Grimaldo said the alleged charge was part of the "psychological warfare" against his country by the White House to "influence" U.S. voters only 4 days from the elections.

"We have proof of more than 40 dangerous violations of Panamanian airspace" by U.S. Air Force planes, said Lopez Grimaldo. [passage omitted]

Incidents Said 'Invented'

PA0611232588 Panama City LA REPUBLICA
DOMINICAL in Spanish 6 Nov 88 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Unattributed article: "Davis and Maisto Give the Latest Instructions to the Panamanian Opposition; They Now Have Invented Dangerous Flights as Part of the Psychological War"]

[Excerpt] Opposition sources have revealed to our newspaper's reporters that on 2 November, [Deputy Chief of Mission] John Maisto and U.S. Ambassador to Panama Arthur Davis called important members of the Panamanian opposition to a meeting.

During the meeting, Davis expressed his annoyance over recent statements by Elliott Abrams, U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, who said the next U.S. Administration will be responsible for dealing with the Panamanian situation. Davis also especially instructed members of the Christian Democratic Party concerning what actions they should take in the next several days. These actions are the product of John Maisto's despair.

Meanwhile, news has also leaked out that Maisto and Davis have prodded U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to summon members of the Panamanian opposition to Washington, D.C., for a meeting on 9 November. It is rumored that Maisto's reputation is beyond repair.

We have also received some information about Maisto and Davis' most recent plot for disrupting our society's peace. The plot has been scheduled for 16 November.

The latest reports from different parts of Panama City indicate that U.S. families have been removed from their apartments and are being replaced by single soldiers.

In addition—as part of the psychological warfare the United States has been staging against Panama—Ambassador Davis in particular has made up the story that Panamanian Air Force [FAP] planes have been flying dangerously near the Howard Air Force Base installations.

This new story can be added to their Halloween story of 31 October in which U.S. soldiers began to shoot when they felt palm trees moving and saw witches flying overhead.

The U.S. Army first said the shootout had occurred to ward off armed intruders. Those who know the U.S. Army, however, say what they claim is ridiculous. The Army has not provided any convincing technical proof to support such a story; no bullets or footprints were found in the area.

We know Arthur Davis and John Maisto made up this whole story because they feel trapped. They know they have failed in Panama and that their days are numbered because of this failure. That is why they invent a new story every day. [passage omitted]

Heads of State Send Independence Day Greetings

PA0411182488 Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish
4 Nov 88 pp 1, 6

[Report by Roberto Rodriguez]

[Text] In messages sent to mark the 8th anniversary of Panama's independence, presidents and heads of state of countries from all over the world have expressed their solidarity with the Panamanian people in their struggle to consolidate their independence and to defend their sovereignty over the canal.

Cuban President Fidel Castro, the USSR Supreme Soviet, Japanese Emperor Hirohito, Costa Rican President Oscar Arias through his ambassador, Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania, and Vo Chi Cong of Vietnam head the list of senders of the messages that Manuel Solis Palma, minister in charge of the Presidency, has been receiving since yesterday.

Fidel Castro said to President Solis Palma that he is closely following "the historic events being carried out by the Panamanian people, their government, and the Defense Forces in their just struggle to defend their sovereignty over the canal and the principles upheld by General Omar Torrijos in the face of U.S. aggression."

The president of Vietnam extended to the Panamanian people his greetings and expressed his hope for their "success in the defense of Panama's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity."

All the congratulatory messages sent to the Panamanian Government and people emphasize the independence, sovereignty, and integrity of the country that today, amid fierce aggression from the United States, is celebrating its 85th anniversary as a free nation.

Among the world's high-ranking figures and statesmen sending greetings were Gustav Husak, president of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia; Paul Xuereb, of the Republic of Malta; and Zayid ibn Sultan Shaykh al Nuhayyan, of the United Arab Emirates.

The foreign ministers of other countries have also extended congratulations to the Republic of Panama.

Minister on Canal Workers 'Pressuring' Bosses
*PA0411201888 Panama City Circuito RPC Television
in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Nov 88*

[Interview with Finance Minister Orville Goodin by unidentified reporter "today"; place not given]

[Text] Finance Minister Orville Goodin said today that it is up to the Panamanian employees working in the Panama Canal area to pressure their respective employers to honor their commitments to Panama and thus to prevent other measures from being taken.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] The Finance Ministry is asking them [Panama Canal workers] to pay their taxes and is trying to take away their homes. What can you say about that?

[Goodin] They should speak to their employers.

[Reporter] But the employees say that they are not responsible for what is happening between the United States and Panama.

[Goodin] They should complain to their employers. It is their money that is being retained. Therefore, they should speak to their employers. [end recording]

PRD Front Considers Presidential Choice
*PA0411220188 Panama City Circuito RPC Television
in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Nov 88*

[Interview with Commerce and Industries Minister Mario Rognoni by unidentified reporter, date and place not given—recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Rognoni] ...the Christian Democratic Party's Arias Calderon made the first move, but it is painful to see the president of a political party calling upon the Panama Defense Forces [FDP] instead of calling for a dialogue with political parties. As a political party member myself, I believe that political problems should be handled by political parties. I agree that the FDP, popular forces, and the Civic Crusade should participate in the dialogue because they have been part of the problem. However, a dialogue and negotiation—whenever it takes place—should be primarily between political parties.

[Reporter] Minister Rognoni, there are constant rumors that the elections might not take place because of the country's economic problems. What would be a democratic solution to the [word indistinct] we are experiencing?

[Rognoni] The democratic solution is, in fact, to hold elections, and the PRD [Democratic Revolutionary

Party] is preparing for them. On a personal level, each of us is considering our goals and prospects. If opposition members intend to refuse to participate in the elections, the country's democratization process will not be undermined, nor will the people's right to elect their leaders be in any way affected.

[Reporter] Has the PRD Managerial Front considered launching one of its members for the presidency?

[Rognoni] Of course. The front is currently carrying out polls to establish potential candidates among its legislators, representatives, and members. The rest of the party is doing the same. I can guarantee that we will participate in the elections—many of us as candidates—and that the elections will perfect Panamanian democracy.

[Reporter] What names are you considering [words indistinct]?

[Rognoni] Basically people who have proven to be popular choices. We must consider former candidates and people currently holding public office. There are legislators such as Raul Montenegro, Camilo Gozaine, and Ovidio Diaz; we have corregimiento representatives in the front; and there are officials such as [Housing] Minister Bermudez, Deputy Minister Cajar [not further identified], myself, and former public officials such as Ernesto Perez Balladares, Juan Jose Amado III. It would be too time-consuming to list all the candidates who could represent the front. [end recording]

Costa Rican Border Purchases To Resume
*PA0511020088 Panama City MEDIODIA in Spanish
4 Nov 88 p 2*

[Text] The Panamanian Government has authorized subsistence purchases of up to 25 balboas at Paso Canoas. The Costa Rican Legislative Assembly has approved a similar "courtesy" purchase law that will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

This will ensure the resumption of trade between the citizens of both countries, which stopped at the end of 1986, when the Costa Rican comptroller decided to stop these courtesy purchases.

There is optimism at Paso Canoas over the reactivation of border trade, which hopefully will bring jobs to hundreds of Panamanians who were laid off following the suspension of Costa Rican purchases and the virtual paralysis of border trade.

Spain To Help In Housing Construction
PA0511030188 Panama City Circuito RPC
Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Summary] Housing Minister Ricardo Bermudez has reported that a letter of intent was recently signed with the vice president of the Iberian-American Cooperation Institute at the Spanish Embassy. The document establishes the two governments' commitment to develop a housing project through which the government will contribute the land and the infrastructure, the community will contribute the labor, and the Iberian-American Cooperation Institute will contribute the construction material for the houses.

Ambassadorial Appointment To Libya Announced
PA0411191788 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE
PANAMA in Spanish 4 Nov 88 p A-4

[From the "Names and Events" column]

[Summary] Manuel Solis Palma, Panamanian minister in charge of the Presidency, yesterday announced that Alvaro Menendez Franco has been appointed ambassador to Libya, a nation that has been very cooperative with our country in recent years. Menendez Franco is a writer, poet, and a journalist.

Bolivia

1.25-Million-Ton Yield of Coca Paste Possible

PY0111225988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0251 GMT
1 Nov 88

[All figures as received]

[Text] La Paz, 31 Oct (EFE)—The National Directorate of Coca Eradication (DIRECO), which answers to the executive branch, has reported that the overproduction of coca in Chapare, in the Cochabamba Department, may yield a production of 1.25 million tons of cocaine paste in 1988.

A report published in the La Paz daily HOY states that the production of coca leaves, which is the basis for the manufacturing of alkaloids, totals 120,000 tons. This means that drug traffickers will have a supply of 1.25 million tons of drugs available for their use.

According to DIRECO, 96 kg of dry coca leaves are needed to produce 1 kg of cocaine paste.

The total production of coca leaves in the Chapare region this year totals 137,727 tons. From this total, only 10 percent is dedicated to traditional consumption; that is, the chewing of coca leaves and the use of coca leaves for medicinal and nutritional purposes.

The official report adds that 35,000 peasant family heads work in the farming of coca leaves. They control 51,097 hectares of coca plantations. This number of hectares should be lowered to 31,620 hectares in keeping with an overall Coca Crop Substitution and Development Plan (PIDYS) which has the support of the United Nations and other organizations.

The plan, which started in 1988, plans for the substitution of 5,000 hectares of coca by 1989 and for the substitution of 8,000 hectares of coca in the following years.

DIRECO reported that so far this year it has been able to replace 2,103 hectares of coca leaves. In view of this, drug traffickers were unable to produce a total of 56,961 kg of cocaine paste.

* MNR, MIR, IU Election Strategies Noted

* Advantages of IU Cited

33480006 Santa Cruz EL MUNDO in Spanish
14 Sep 88 p 5

[Article by Jose Gramunt de Moragas, S.J.]

[Text] The left wing is reorganizing with a view to competing in the coming elections. The so-called United Left (IU) has been formed. Almost 10 parties have decided to organize, rather than be the victims of their own dispersal.

I was greatly surprised by the fact that this group abandoned the now hackneyed term "revolutionary," which until a very short time ago, every self-respecting political group included on its baptismal certificate. No, the new coalition now calls itself the United Left, pure and simple. This is a very fine name. In addition, it is perfect for the purpose of being able to echo, during demonstrations, the slogan about never being defeated. Well and good.

The IU brings together innumerable groups and so many other interpretations of the left wing: the democratic left, communist left, anarchistic left, pacifist left, violent left, bossist left. But the important thing is that the parties in this multicolored sector have joined together to counterbalance the other, more powerful, blocs competing in the election: the ADN, MIR, and MNR.

Democratic pluralism is unimaginable without opposition. A monochromatic political system cannot be democratic. First of all, this is because the citizens conceive of the political reality as involving the choice of one of the many ways of "skinning a cat." When a political system imposes a single method, it is called dictatorship, whether it be in the style of Pinochet or Castro.

And secondly, this is true because there is also no democracy unless there is freedom to dissent and oversight of the government. Where these two things do not exist, the government leaders will rest on their laurels, ossifying into a calm and paralyzed possession of acknowledged power.

The United Left front has an excellent opportunity to harvest enough votes to place either many or few of its party representatives in the Congress. But the IU does indeed promise to profit from not a few votes cast by way of punishment.

I take the liberty of expressing the view that the IU would bring in even more votes if it were capable of offering the country a convincing alternative economic policy.

The majority of the voters, even those who rail against the harshness of the economic policy imposed in these past 3 years, no longer have any confidence in the various forms of Utopia which the radical left was in the habit of proposing until a short time ago—egalitarian countries, concentration of the productive tools in the hands of the state, more nationalization (of the banks, foreign trade, urban property), rebellion against the international financial mechanisms, trade-union participation in government, workers' intervention in businesses, price controls for staple goods, etc.

These and other solutions which the banners waved by the left wing in the past represented no longer appear convincing, even by the leftist voters in the Western democracies. I fear that these proposals will not win over any majorities here either.

The IU is a political phenomenon which our democracy needs. Its success or failure will depend in large part on its ability to win over the electoral body to its proposal, especially with regard to the attitude to be adopted toward the economic reality in this country.

*** End of MNR as Movement**

33480006 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish
18 Sep 88 pp 3, 8

[Article by Henry Oporto Castro]

[Text] The choice of Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada as the presidential candidate of the MNR has confirmed that this party is in fact undergoing "times of change," and in irreversible fashion.

It is a question of nothing more nor less than the end of movement status for the MNR.

In the past 2 decades, but more clearly since 1985, a party has been developing within the movement headed by Victor Paz Estenssoro which is radically different from that whose name was inseparably linked with the "national revolution." Crystallization of this faction finally came about at its last national convention.

Paz Estenssoro imposed an individual who was a symbol of the foreign-oriented dominant class as his heir, yet another candidate consistent with the desires of the governing circles in Washington.

Thus a double paradox has come to exist. The principal architect of the movement and of the "national revolution" has also become the digger of its grave. If the MNR made itself a partner in the bitter struggle against "antinationalism," as the ideologues of revolutionary nationalism were fond of saying, that same "antinationalist" faction would seem to be achieving its historical revenge today, with an adaptation which is liquidating the party which dared to challenge it.

The new MNR is a party which has exchanged revolutionary nationalism for neoliberalism as its real ideology. It is a party which has relegated the April banners to the shelves of history, in order to embrace yet another aspect of the transnational approach of monopolistic capital as a program for the consolidation of Bolivia. In other words, it is a party which has turned the traditional populist discourse into class discourse, adopting a refined bourgeois tone which leaves that vast category which includes the mestizo and Indian militants with no other role but that of an unconditional, submissive and silent base.

We recognize, however, that the "oligarchization" of the MNR, what Sanchez de Lozada calls the "modernization of the party," has come about as the inevitable result of the denaturalization of its political proposal, and therefore as the only possible response to the end of the

usefulness of the historical cycle of "national revolution." (The other path, that of revolutionary and progressive development from within, is a path which the failure of the UDP blocked forever.) The new party leadership, that of the knights of neoliberalism and the "Johnny-come-latelies", has taken this step with full awareness that the oligarchic formula for making Bolivia "viable" is anti-Bolivian, because it involves setting the nation against the country itself, and expressly abandoning a destiny characterized by sovereignty and dignity. And worse still, this leadership is aware that the alternative chosen for dealing with the crisis involves putting our wealth up for auction, mortgaging Bolivia and transforming it into a mere "free zone." The new MNR formula, like the old one, favors colonialism and the rich, because what is important to the party is to save itself, even if this means that the people will sink.

What now remains to be seen is whether Sanchez de Lozada will be able to avoid the electoral collapse of the MNR which it was already noticed during the elections last year. After all, we must not lose sight of the fact that this is a country with an overwhelming majority of Indians and half-breeds.

For the time being, his candidacy renders the restructuring of the social bloc in power which began in December, as a result of the electoral rise of the MIR, a more complex matter. With this group in the ring, it is obvious that the right-wing sphere is more confused and fragmented, while at the same time the clash between the government sector and the leftist opposition is gaining in clarity. If Banzer and Paz Zamora are situational opponents, Sanchez de Lozada and Antonio Aranibar are strategic and natural antagonists.

In the course of this realignment interplay, the question arises as to what direction the disillusioned and confused base levels of the movement will choose.

*** MIR Wants Stable Growth**

33480006 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish
18 Sep 88 p 3

[Text] A distinction must be made between a worker, craftsman or farmer and a smuggler or a free trade advocate. It is said that the government is posing a "false dilemma" concerning the economic policy, with the statement that everyone should come out either for or against its continuation.

The Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) urges maintaining the stabilization achieved thanks to the economic policy of the MNR-ADN [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement-Nationalist Democratic Action], with one difference, [namely] the achievement of sustained economic growth to the benefit of the national majorities.

Samuel Doria Medina, who heads the economic team, and Guido Cespedes, who heads the national project of the MIR, said during an interview with PRESENCIA that their party "never agreed" with the so-called new economic policy the government is implementing.

"Clear proof of this is the fact that we did not join in the mislabeled Pact for Democracy sponsored by the MNR and the ADN, although we were invited to do so.

"We (the MIR) analyzed the content of the economic policy set forth in Supreme Decree 21060, and we saw that it was inconsistent with our line. For this reason, we did not subscribe to this pact, and we have always remained in the opposition. It would be an absurdity after so many years in the opposition for us to say now that we agree with the economic model."

The MIR leaders explained that this was not opposition for its own sake, since this organization has at different times set forth other options. They noted as an example the 1985 electoral campaign, when their proposal for stabilization differed from that of the MNR and the ADN, being based essentially on economic growth and an increase in the income of the general treasury of the nation, as opposed to the other parties' advocacy of reduced expenditures.

The same thing occurred at the time of the presentation of the new Tax and Financial Laws.

Doria Medina and Cespedes expressed regret that some of the media "have caused things to be said about MIR people which are not true," and that on the basis of "these things," they even editorialized about the position of this party with regard to the economic policy of the government.

They reiterated that their party has always opposed this policy, and that they do not agree with the economic model, which is of no further use for stabilization because "the tools are lacking" to facilitate reactivation of the productive apparatus and the achievement of growth.

"With the exhaustion of the model, what the government is doing is to create certain illusory effects to make the people believe that it is continuing. The government has posed a false dilemma by saying that all Bolivian citizens and political parties should come out for or against the continuation of the model."

They, those in the government, know that the model is of no further use and that there is not sufficient strength to face up to the next task, and for this reason they have "electoralized" the situation. Proof of this irresponsible approach is seen in the fact that the rate of exchange has already begun to decline, as if what is wanted is to show the people that all is well and that the exchange rate could even reach 2 bolivianos to the dollar.

"Another example is seen in what the government is doing annually with the departments, when it proffers resources and investments it knows will take a long time to mature."

These leaders said that stabilization is not an ideological problem and it is not an issue of the left wing or the right. Rather it is a necessary prerequisite for achieving national growth, which is a national goal. "Therefore, our proposal to the country is one of stabilization and growth."

When asked about the foundations on which this growth would be based, they said that the current model bases the entire development process on exports, and this is one of the errors of the new economic policy, because exports in and of themselves cannot serve as a development mechanism for promoting growth.

"It is necessary that there be exports, but importance must also be accorded to the domestic productive sectors, to the domestic market. There is a basic difference in the role we assign to the productive sectors, because with the MNR model, it seems that the market will have to resolve all the problems."

They added that there are three shortcomings in the market mechanism. The market lacks a national vision; it lacks a long-term approach; and it also lacks social sensitivity.

These leaders were asked how the reactivation of the productive apparatus would be achieved.

They said that in such productive sectors as agriculture, industry, small industry, and the craft and mining sectors, there exists a considerable potential for reactivation. There is a substantial margin for recovery, both in terms of their contribution to the national product and in terms of recovery in employment.

"More emphasis must be placed on these sectors. It is necessary to distinguish between a worker, a farmer or a craftsman and a smuggler or a free trade advocate, rather than, as is done with the current model, regarding them as two economic agents."

On the basis of this definition, there would be different policy for action and a different definition for these sectors.

Foreign Debt [subhead]

According to the MIR leaders, the subject of the foreign debt, which the government, with "one foot in the water," has just recently begun to recognize, is not a private banking sector problem, because we see from the structure of its debt that it accounts for less than a quarter of the total.

The central problem has to do with the bilateral and multilateral debt, and in this connection, the only thing the government has done is to postpone the solution.

"We believe that the basic problem involves achieving a positive net balance. This government said that there was a positive net balance last year, that is to say, more money came in than we paid out. But this is false, according to the reports of such serious bodies as the ECLA [Economic Commission of Latin America] and the Cartagena Agreement Council, which tell us that this was not the case. Bolivia paid out more than it took in during the 1987 fiscal year."

In the bilateral debt sector, it is necessary to act more imaginatively, and not to continue, as has been the policy to date, for example, paying out \$100 million every year to Brazil and Argentina, our largest creditors.

The MIR urges that on the basis of the economic history of our relations with Brazil, an old agreement be reconsidered. Its spirit tended to "put in the same pocket" all of the money destined for the amortization of the debt with that country, in order to allocate it for the implementation of mutually beneficial projects.

"It is very clear that the reintegration of Bolivia in international trade has a great deal to do with our economic relations with Brazil."

These leaders spoke of the economic agreement recently signed by our government with that in Brazil, which they termed "a very positive step."

However, this agreement leaves Bolivia with the whole of the financial risk. In other words, Brazil is not lending a single centavo, and all of the money must be found by Bolivia.

According to the MIR, the mechanism it proposes would resolve the two problems by reducing the resources sent out of the country in payment of the bilateral debt, on the one hand, while on the other, consolidating the resources for the investment needed to carry out integration projects with Brazil, and to ensure that it shares the financial risk. The same thing could be done with regard to Argentina.

Concerning the payment of the foreign debt in general, these leaders believe that on the basis of the current mechanisms and conditions, this debt "cannot be paid," as both Fidel Castro and Congressman Bradley in the United States have said.

Therefore, the solution cannot be an economic one, because in mathematical terms, it will never be possible to pay this debt, and thus the solution must involve the political level.

In addition, the social debt to the Bolivian people which has been postponed cannot be forgotten. This is a historic debt which has to do with the poverty of this people.

And in this connection, the industrialized countries all over the world bear the serious responsibility of cooperating in order to consolidate the democracy which has cost our people so dearly. For if these mechanisms with regard to payment of the debt continue to limit growth and to increase social costs, the results may be an explosion which will put an end to democracy.

Correction to Report on Debt Payment Delay

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Government Hopes To Delay Payment of Debt," published in the 1 November Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 33: column one, paragraph one, only sentence should read: ...principal of its \$2.3-billion debt for 3 years... (changing "million" to "billion")

Brazil

Government To Pay URP, Bonus to Employees
PY0411024188 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television
in Portuguese 2155 3 Nov 88

[Text] The government has decided to pay the URP [unit price reference] that was frozen in May, plus a bonus, to federal employees. Striking workers held a demonstration today at the esplanade in front of the ministry buildings.

Because representatives of business, labor, and the government were attending a meeting on the anti-inflation pact, the striking workers went to the Labor Ministry building.

The demonstration increased its momentum as participants of the meeting started to arrive. Police were everywhere, but there were no incidents.

Later the striking workers went to the Administration Ministry building. This is where they remained the entire afternoon, awaiting the government's proposal.

Early this evening, after a meeting with President Sarney, Administration Minister Aluizio Alves reported the government's decision.

[Begin Alves recording] In addition to the URP and the corresponding month's salary, the government has decided to pay in November the URP that was frozen in May, plus a bonus of 25,000 cruzados to all public administration employees and employees of state-owned companies and foundations. [end recording]

According to Minister Aluizio Alves, strikers will not be paid for those days they do not work.

The strike command will meet tonight to set the date for the assembly to study the government's proposal.

Sarney: Government To Comply With Social Pact
PY0511001788 *Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese*
2100 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] Today President Jose Sarney guaranteed that the government will steadfastly carry out its part in the social pact.

[Begin Sarney recording] I think the pact has been possible thanks to national maturity, democracy, and the atmosphere of liberty we are all enjoying.

The government will carry out its part. It will do so resolutely, firmly, and with complete dedication.

Similar pacts have been successful in Mexico, Israel, Spain, and in many other countries.

We are absolutely convinced that this is a huge step forward. We hope that Brazilian society will become aware of the scope of this measure. [end recording]

High Command Support Cited
PY0501025288 *Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO*
in Portuguese 4 Nov 88 p B-4

[Excerpt] The Armed Forces High Command, comprising Army Minister Leonidas Pires Goncalves; Navy Minister Henrique Saboia; Aeronautics Minister Octavio Moreira Lima; EMFA [Armed Forces General Staff] chief Valbert Lisieux; SNI chief Ivan de Souza Mendes; and Military Household Chief Rubens Bayma Denys, has expressed its support for the anti-inflation agreement. The command stated that the press must report extensively on the agreement after it is achieved "so that society may fully understand its significance." This was reported yesterday by Army spokesman General Ary Lacombe after the Armed Forces High Command held a working luncheon at Army headquarters.

Gen Lacombe said: The social pact is a very important step in solving the economic crisis. Businessmen, workers, and the government are negotiating a pact and the Armed Forces High Command hopes they will be successful. "The military ministers believe that 'the social pact must be quickly achieved and that there must be a continuous dialogue.'" Gen Lacombe said that it is not the intention of the military to sit at the negotiating table to discuss the agreement, "because this is the duty of the representatives that have been appointed by the government and the different social sectors." [passage omitted]

1987 Overdue Foreign Debt Interest Paid
PY0511004588 *Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese*
2100 GMT 4 Nov 88

[By reporter Gustavo Mariani from the Central Bank building]

[Text] This afternoon Central Bank advisers reported that Brazil today made a \$2-billion payment with a deposit at a Citibank branch office in New York. This payment settles overdue interest on the foreign debt for the February-September 1987 period.

The advisers added that, to make this payment, Brazil used \$2 billion of a \$3-billion loan secured from creditor banks in November 1987. Brazil used the first portion of that loan during the period from December 1987 to January 1988.

The 1987 overdue interest totaled \$4.5 billion. In December 1987 the Brazilian Government reached a provisional agreement with the creditor banks. According to this agreement, Brazil would pay part of the overdue interest and the creditor banks would reschedule the rest. Things would thus be settled little by little. Brazil was thereby making an effort to resolve the moratorium problem by settling the last overdue account.

Sep Industrial Production Down 1.4 Percent
PY0611022288 *Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese*
5 Nov 88 p 24

[Summary] The IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics] has reported that Brazilian industrial production decreased by 1.4 percent in September, after having increased by 3.6 percent a month during the June-August 1988 period. Despite this negative figure, the average level of production from July to September 1988, which was 122.1 [unit not specified], exceeded the average level from January to June 1987, which was only 120.4 [unit not specified].

Chile

Navy Reshuffles High Command; 9 Officers Retired
PY0711012188 *Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish*
0030 GMT 7 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 2 Nov (AFP)—The Chilean Navy issued a communique on 5 November stating that the Navy High Command has been reshuffled. This reshuffle has no precedent in the past 15 years: Two vice admirals and seven rear admirals will leave their posts next month.

The Navy reshuffle was announced 3 days after the Army made significant changes in its high command, changes equally unprecedented since the installation of President Augusto Pinochet's military regime in September 1973.

The reshuffles of the Army and Navy High Commands took place 1 month after the plebiscite in which more than 54 percent of the Chileans voted against General Pinochet remaining in power until 1997.

The communique of the Navy, which is commanded by Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, stated that Vice Admiral Hernan Rivera, chief of the Navy General Staff; Vice Admiral Rigoberto Cruz, chief of the National Defense General Staff; and 7 of the 16 rear admirals of the Navy High Command have been retired.

Year-end reshuffles are being expected soon at the Air Force, which is commanded by General Fernando Matthei, and in the Carabineros, which is commanded by General Rodolfo Stange.

Pinochet Praises Work of Former Ministers

*PY0511154088 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish
0930 GMT 5 Nov 88*

[Text] President Pinochet has said that the important issue now is to help consolidate the vast government work done during the past 15 years for the Chileans' well-being by electing able representatives capable of providing good administration of the country's affairs.

Pinochet said it is important to renew our efforts to overcome new obstacles.

The president made the remarks during a speech at the O'Higgins Hall of La Moneda Palace at a dinner for former ministers and under secretaries and the current cabinet. The president told them:

[Begin recording] Each one of you in your capacity has assumed different posts in this government. I thank you for a job well done and I urge you to put all the experience you obtained as ministers or under secretaries to the service of your new jobs. Chile needs your experience.

This experience should show with more clarity how the passions of party politics draw the attention of the people toward transitory goals. The important thing from now on is to help consolidate the vast government work done during the past 15 years for the well-being of Chileans by electing able representatives capable of providing good administration of the country's affairs, because Chile is on its way toward true development.

At the same time we need to renew our efforts to overcome many new obstacles, to preserve this nation free of foreign intervention, and to exalt our traditions, which make us proud throughout the world.

All Chileans must be flag bearers of these ideals. You have opened an important path in the building of the country. All of us must help finish the job.

With deep gratitude and unshakable faith in the glorious destiny of the country, I invite you to say together: Viva Chile. [end recording]

The president added that all Chileans must be flag bearers of these ideals. Talking to the ministers and under secretaries who resigned on 21 October, Pinochet said we do not need to recall the hard times we went through together, particularly on the night of 5 October. These are times when one tends to feel discouraged. All of you, however, fulfilled your duties faithfully.

The president then praised the job of each one of the former ministers and under secretaries, particularly the role of Sergio Fernandez.

Former Minister Fernandez addressed the gathering of representatives of the former cabinet, stressing that the country had to confront the hostility, or the aggressive unfriendly attitude, of some world powers in order to rescue the country from chaos and poverty. These powers tried to twist its sovereign rule but failed. The strength of the government's work, the firmness of the government's principles, and its grand conception of the national future cannot be tarnished by circumstantial incidents, Fernandez said.

Stange Denies Census 'Political Connotations'

*PY0501022288 Santiago Television Nacional
de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Nov 88*

[Excerpt] Carabineros Commander Rodolfo Stange has said the residence census will have no political connotations, as some people are saying. He also praised the success of the investigation on the extremist attack against police units.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] General Stange made this statement minutes before opening the inaugural ceremony of the German School building in El Salto District, in Vina del Mar. Gen Stange is a German School alumnus.

Stange said there will be no census of Chilean citizens for political purposes, as some have said.

[Stange] We were granting residence permits without enforcing the proper law. Therefore, we had to pass the law to normalize the situation.

We will study the situation to see if we must amend the law. It is not as people say. There is no census for the time being. There are no political connotations to this.

[Second reporter] Do you reassert the statement [words indistinct] that the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] is not involved in an escalation against the Carabineros?

[Stange] As you know, it seems that for its own convenience the FPMR is feigning a split. Some say yes; some say they are not involved in an escalation. I cannot say there is an escalation. They are perpetrating surprise attacks. [passage omitted] [end recording] [passage omitted]

Police Official Views Split Within FPMR
*PY0501020788 Santiago Television Nacional
de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Nov 88*

[Text] Fernando Paredes, director of the Chilean Investigative Police Department, has said the FPMR [Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front] has been split by basic doctrinal and operational disagreements.

[Begin recording] [Paredes] Yes, of course there is an FPMR faction that has splintered from the main group. We identify this FPMR splinter group as the faction.

The split may have taken place because of either operational or ideological factors. We are studying the situation to learn the reasons.

[Reporter] What will be the impact of this split? How dangerous is this new group?

[Paredes] I believe the important issue is for people to realize that these groups lack basic ideological indoctrination. Some may be more daring than others; others may have different ideas on how to achieve their objectives.

I believe people must be aware that we are dealing with individuals without any beliefs, without principles; this may be the basis for the split within the FPMR. [end recording]

Detained FPMR Members Held 'Incomunicado'
*PY0411181788 Santiago Radio Chilena Network
in Spanish 1600 GMT 4 Nov 88*

[Relay from Temuco]

[Text] The five individuals who were detained in the mountainous region of (Cocoan) and are accused of belonging to the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] terrorist organization are being held incomunicado at the social rehabilitation center.

The military prosecutor of Cautin, (Rodolfo Calsen), has 5 days, beginning today, to bring charges against them, and to either condemn or release them for lack of evidence.

The detainees, as previously reported, have been identified as Maximiliano Rivera, 31; Aldo Esteban Mutarelo, 30; and a woman identified as Angelica Huerta Huerta, 26. They were all detained in the Catipulli sector, some 30 km from Pucon, toward the mountains. Two M-16 rifles were found on these individuals, along with ammunition, explosives, and subversive material.

Two other people were later arrested. They were identified as Adolfo Mas Stilman Flores, 29, and Arnaldo Rivera. No weapons were found on them.

These detentions were carried out last Monday, 31 October, but the report was released to the communications media only yesterday afternoon [3 Nov]. The detainees are reportedly being held incomunicado while awaiting a resolution. If the deadline is not extended, we will have some news tomorrow on whether they will be submitted to trial or be acquitted for lack of evidence.

Power Outage Hits Santiago, Central Chile
*PY0611030788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0248 GMT
6 Nov 88*

[Text] Santiago, 5 Nov (EFE)—A power outage left the city of Santiago in complete darkness tonight. The blackout also partially affected an extensive area of approximately 1,000 kilometers in central Chile.

The blackout occurred at 2235 (0135 GMT). In Santiago it was preceded by a sharp drop in voltage and by street lights "blinking."

Power was restored within 20 minutes in downtown Santiago, where La Moneda Palace (government house), ministries, and other government offices are located. The outage, however, lasted more than 1 hour in many parts of Santiago, especially in the suburbs.

No official information has been released on the causes of the outage. It is believed, however, that it could have been caused by bomb attacks; according to unofficial reports, three high tension towers were knocked down.

While the city was dark, some shots could be heard in certain districts, such as Barriada de Maipu, Colina, and the San Cristobal Hill Metropolitan Park. No damage or injuries have been reported.

The soccer match being played at the National Stadium by Colo Colo and Deportes Iquique was interrupted in the 24th minute of the first half, when Colo Colo was winning 1 to 0. The match will continue at 1900 tomorrow.

The 8,000 people watching the match remained in the stadium, which had emergency lights on. Although they showed signs of impatience, the people waited until the postponement of the match was announced.

Radio and telephone reports received in Santiago indicated that several towns in the central region, including towns from La Serena (472 km north of Santiago) to Temuco (673 km to the south), had been left partially or entirely in the darkness.

Other towns throughout the 13 regions of the country also had problems with power shortages, drops in voltage, or "blinking" street lights.

Bomb Explosion Kills One in Santiago

PY0511173188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1546 GMT
5 Oct 88

[Text] Santiago, 5 Oct (EFE)—One person was killed early this morning when a bomb exploded in downtown Santiago. Police believe that the victim was planting the bomb when it went off.

Police sources confirmed that the explosion occurred a few minutes past midnight today in front of the Panoramic Building entrance, located on the corner of Lyon and 11 September Avenues.

According to preliminary investigations, the powerful bomb was activated by a time mechanism that exploded when a man, approximately 25 years old and still unidentified, was trying to place it in a commercial shop located in the building.

The victim's body was torn to pieces due to the force of the explosion. Parts of his body were found 50 meters from the location of the explosion.

Police found a smaller explosive device in the victim's clothes, apparently a grenade, which did not go off.

FPMR Claims Blackout; Dead Man Identified

PY0611195288 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
1442 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 6 Nov (TELAM-ANSA)—The self-styled Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front (FPMR) has claimed responsibility for a series of bomb attacks that caused last night's power outage that affected most of Chile, including the capital. An FPMR spokesman who identified himself as Jorge Salas told the local media that the attacks were a warning to General Augusto Pinochet because he must go.

Police reports state that five high-tension towers were destroyed by simultaneous bomb attacks. Armed individuals in some neighborhoods in this capital tried to build barricades and clashed with policemen.

According to the local media, Salas said that the attacks were a reminder of the opposition victory in the recent plebiscite.

In another incident, the government has revealed the identity of the young person killed while planting a powerful bomb in La Providencia district, in Santiago, on Friday 4 November.

Interior Ministry Under Secretary Gonzalo Garcia said that the person has been identified as Ernesto Contreras Jorquera, 24, whose body was scattered in a 50-meter radius due to the explosion.

Two Terrorists Reportedly Killed by Own Bomb

PY0711004488 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish
2122 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 6 Nov (TELAM-ANSA)—Two alleged terrorists were apparently blown up by the unexpected explosion of a bomb they had planted at a light post in Temuco city, 800 km south of Santiago.

The incident took place at the same time other bomb attacks, perpetrated in various parts of Chile, almost caused a nationwide blackout late last night and early today.

According to the police report, the bodies of the two individuals were destroyed by the bomb. However, it was possible to identify both of them by the remains of their alleged ID cards.

According to the Carabineros, the individuals were allegedly Eduardo Duran, 26, and Irene Sanhueza, 31. The police also found two guns and other explosives.

Radio Director Released After 8 Days in Jail

PY0511174188 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1515 GMT
5 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 5 Nov (EFE)—Journalist Jorge Diaz Guzman, director of Radio Ventisqueros, has been released after being held in jail for 8 days, the newspaper LA EPOCA reported today.

Diaz Guzman, who had to post the equivalent of \$80 in bond, was arrested on orders from the Military Prosecutor's Office of Coyhaique, 1,947 km south of Santiago.

The journalist is 1 of the 31 Chilean newsmen being prosecuted by the military regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet.

The Radio Ventisqueros director has been charged with "offending the Carabineros." Diaz Guzman contends that this charge was made in reprisal for the fact that his radio station had reported violent acts perpetrated by Coyhaique's Carabineros.

CUT Calls for 30 Nov 'Peaceful Mobilization'

PY0711024788 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2138 GMT
6 Nov 88

[Excerpts] Santiago, 6 Nov (EFE)—Diego Olivares, acting president of the Center Labor Union (CUT), today urged the opposition to call for a day of peaceful social mobilization on 30 November as a way of protesting General Augusto Pinochet's regime.

The labor leader indicated that although 1 month has gone by since Pinochet was defeated in the 5 October plebiscite, the government has not satisfied any popular demands.

Olivares was the only speaker at a CUT rally held in downtown Santiago. This rally gathered no more than 6,000 people; in fact, police sources estimated that only some 3,500 people attended the meeting.

During the rally Olivares asked that the internal exiles of CUT President Manuel Bustos and CUT Vice President Arturo Martinez be lifted. [passage omitted]

Diego Olivares said that his call for a "peaceful mobilization" against the military regime was directed at the 16 opposition parties that comprise the Agreement of Pro-Democratic Parties [Concertacion de Partidos por la Democracia] (CPPD), and the Social Accord for Democracy (ACUSO).

The CUT leader said that Gen Pinochet's regime, in power for 15 years, must be asked to urgently answer the list of demands submitted by the Chilean workers.

5 Nov Rally To Demand Pinochet's Resignation
PY0411134288 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0348 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 3 Nov (EFE)—The leftist Shantytown Dwellers United Command (CUP) organization has called on Chileans to join the second national rally against hunger and poverty that will be staged tomorrow. This rally will coincide with another demonstration which intends to force President Pinochet to resign.

A spokesman for the United Left, a coalition that includes the banned PCCh and supports the CUP mobilization, told EFE that CUP leaders intend to deliver a petition at La Moneda Palace tomorrow.

The document announcing the rally states that the mobilization "is supported by the landslide victory of the no-vote in the 5-October plebiscite," when Pinochet's single candidacy was defeated.

Today the movement obtained the support of Anibal Palma, Radical Socialist Democratic party president, and of Humanist Party President Tomas Hirsch and Green Party President Andres Korysma.

These three groups also announced a "banging on pots and pans" on 5 November to commemorate the first month since the plebiscite.

The CUP staged the first rally against hunger and poverty last 11 July. On that occasion 216 people were arrested by the police, 8 were wounded, and 21 Santiago buses, bank branches, and shops were attacked with explosives.

Communist Newspaper EL SIGLO To Reappear
PY0411141988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0332 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] Santiago, 3 Nov (EFE)—Staff members of the newspaper EL SIGLO, the official mouthpiece of the Chilean Communist Party (PCCh), today announced that after several years of clandestine publication they now intend to sell it publicly on the streets.

EL SIGLO was closed and the printing machines confiscated after the 1973 military coup that led General Augusto Pinochet to power.

Despite the closure, the newspaper has occasionally been published clandestinely until the announcement made today in a news conference granted in downtown Santiago under a big PCCh flag.

Staff members Jose Miguel Varas and Jorge Insunza reported that during the plebiscite, when the military candidate (Pinochet) was defeated, "the country has voted for the existence of full freedom of the press in Chile."

The communist leaders stated: "We want to comply with the people's demand for full freedom of expression; for this reason, we are announcing that EL SIGLO staff members will make all necessary efforts to make this newspaper circulate publicly and to achieve the status of a legal and legitimate newspaper."

During the news conference the current president of the Chilean journalists association, Jorge Richards, stated that the organization of journalists has demanded not only freedom of the press but also the right for each ideological group to freely express its ideas.

PRC Minister Meets Pinochet, Foreign Minister
PY0511011988 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The PRC's minister of foreign economic relations and trade, Zheng Tuobin, has said that Chilean-Chinese relations are based on principles of international coexistence.

Zheng, who arrived yesterday in Chile on an official visit, held a meeting this morning with Foreign Minister Hernan Felipe Errazuriz, with whom he discussed bilateral and international issues.

The PRC minister also mentioned the economic ties that unite the two countries and the ample prospects for increasing bilateral ties.

During his stay in Chile, Zheng is scheduled to meet with other Chilean authorities and representatives from the private sector.

This morning, Zheng also held a meeting with President Augusto Pinochet. Also present at the meeting were the Chilean ministers of the economy and foreign relations.

Correction to Report on Army Changes

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "New Army Deputy Chief Named; Others Retired," published in the 4 November Latin America DAILY REPORT, page 30: column one, paragraph three, should read: ...Martinez Benavidez, Fernando Hormazabal Gajardo, Sergio Valenzuela Ramirez... (correcting name "Fernando Hormazabal Gajardo")

Colombia

Barco Labels All-Out War 'Simplistic Solution'
PA0411195988 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1901 GMT
4 Nov 88

[Text] Bogota, 4 Nov—Colombian President Barco today rejected the call for an all-out war against leftist guerrillas made yesterday by Colombian Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio Molina. The president called the mandate "a simplistic solution," and he again advocated the enforcement of an "overall reconciliation policy."

Barco spoke today during a National Police ceremony and, without directly mentioning the minister, he recalled that during Army Day celebrations last 5 August he had "warned about the risk of assuming extreme positions."

The president quoted parts of his 5 August speech, particularly those in which he rejected the policies of an all-out offensive and unconditional amnesty.

Barco said that the adherents of an all-out war or unconditional amnesty "do not bear in mind the complexity of public order problems, which must be dealt with within the context of an overall reconciliation policy."

Barco added: "We must prevent restricting our options to either a strategy of total destruction or to a complete political surrender by the state; we will not be tempted by simplistic solutions."

Gaviria: Armed Forces Support Peace Proposal
PA0511020288 Bogota Inravisión Television
Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] Government Minister Cesar Gaviria has commented on the explosive announcement made by Colombian Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio [on how to counter subversion], saying the Armed Forces continue to support President Virgilio Barco's peace proposal.

Minister Gaviria said Gen Samudio simply was using military jargon when referring to the increase in terrorist activities. Gaviria said the country's military forces have the support of the government and of all the Colombian people in facing the subversive groups' criminal activities. He said it is necessary to save the political solution option for when the armed groups decide on peace:

[Begin Gaviria recording] The Armed Forces and the defense minister have said they support the peace initiative and are prepared to participate in the peace effort.

Minister Samudio was referring to the terrorist and criminal actions with which subversive organizations have responded to the peace initiative. [end recording]

Minister Gaviria explained that ministers do not have to consult President Barco before making statements and that Gen Samudio just wanted to emphasize that political solutions are difficult to obtain.

Barco Accepts Defense Minister's Resignation
PA0511140788 Paris AFP in Spanish 1316 GMT
5 Nov 88

[Text] Bogota, 5 Nov (AFP)—Colombian Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio Molina resigned his post today after declaring total war on the leftist guerrillas and being publicly disavowed by Liberal President Virgilio Barco.

Samudio Molina, a general who was to enter the reserves in December, resigned at about 0600 GMT on Saturday. His resignation was accepted by the chief of state, who appointed General Jaime Guerrero Paz, Armed Forces commander, to head the Defense Ministry.

Barco's government immediately made other changes in the military command, but confirmed General Jose Guillermo Medina Sanchez as National Police commander.

Resignation Prompts Reshuffle
PA0511150088 Paris AFP in Spanish 1418 GMT
5 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Bogota, 5 Nov (AFP)—The Colombian military command was reshuffled today after Liberal President Virgilio Barco accepted the resignation of Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio, who had ordered the extermination of leftist rebels. The president designated General Jaime Guerrero Paz, also a hardliner, to replace the outgoing minister.

Samudio, 56, resigned after President Barco reiterated his government's resolve to offer "an extended, but firm hand" to subversives, who in the past 2 months have responded to his peace proposal of last September with a wave of violence.

Samudio's resignation prompted a total reshuffle in the Colombian military commands, while General Jose Guillermo Medina Sanchez was confirmed as commander of the National Police, which has some 100,000 men in its ranks.

Gen Guerrero Paz, who was Armed Forces commander in chief, was appointed to head the Defense Ministry. Army Commander in Chief General Oscar Botero was promoted to the post of Armed Forces commander in chief while Armed Forces Joint Chief of Staff General Nelson Mejia was appointed Army commander in chief.

Major General Pedro Nel Molano was designated new Armed Forces joint chief of staff.

General Alfonso Amaya Maldonado was appointed new Colombian Air Force (FAC) commander in chief, while Vice Admiral Manuel Fernando Avendano Galvis was named to succeed Admiral Rafael Grau Araujo as Navy commander in chief. [passage omitted]

*** Armed Forces Leader on Dialogue, Peace Plan**
56002001A Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish
7 Oct 88 p 10-C

[Interview with General Jaime Guerrero Paz, armed forces commandant and acting defense minister, by Yamid Amat on 6 October: "The Army Will Fight the Guerrillas If They Do Not Want Peace"; place not given]

[Text] "The guerrillas unquestionably have no desire for peace," said General Jaime Guerrero Paz, acting defense minister and commandant of the military forces.

The general, who is substituting for Minister Rafael Samudio Molina, who is currently in Israel, added that if the guerrillas do not turn in their arms, "we must fight them because there is no other choice. If they do not want a dialogue, if they do not want peace, if they want to impose their ideas by force of arms, then we have to fight them."

He said that dialogue has been tried, and the results have been disastrous: "Violence has intensified in the country; the subversive groups have multiplied. Is there is an honest desire for dialogue?"

Guerrero Paz yesterday granted an interview to the program "Reportajes Caracol." The following are highlights from it:

[Amat] Could there be some sort of dialogue with the guerrillas?

[Guerrero Paz] The fact is that we have attempted a dialogue for a long time. We have been attempted a dialogue since 1983. My question is, what have been the results of this dialogue? Violence has intensified in the country; the subversive groups have multiplied. Is there an honest desire for peace? The response that has been

given to the dialogue and to the peace processes is the one that we Colombians have sadly and gloomily seen so many times, as happened yesterday, when three towns in the Magdalena Medio were assaulted simultaneously for one fundamental purpose: to attack the police and the army, to shed blood and to keep on engaging in violence in a country that has a very definite future and that is inhabited by people who reject violence.

[Amat] If you say that dialogue has not borne fruit, then why peace?

[Guerrero Paz] I think that peace can be achieved when all Colombians unite and realize that the responsibility for the country's defense does not lie solely with the military or police organizations but with everyone.

Those who belong to the groups that have taken up arms do not exactly represent the great majority of the Colombian people; rather, they are a tiny minority who are resorting to violence, terror, blackmail, sabotage, and all sorts of crimes to achieve their goal of coming to power, whereas the great majority of us Colombians are on the other side of the road, seeking power as the political parties do, through elections.

[Amat] You don't think that the guerrillas have a desire for peace, do you?

[Guerrero Paz] They do not have a desire for peace; they unquestionably do not.

[Amat] And the military forces don't either, do they?

[Guerrero Paz] The military forces want peace more than anyone. From the time that I entered the military school until this very day, when I am the commandant of the military forces, we have been witnessing these exhausting and wearying scenes of violence.

We are not, of course, exhausted and weary, but the Colombian people are bored, fed up with violence; they do not want any more violence, and for this reason we in the military have supported the peace programs that administrations, like the current one, have designed.

[Amat] Programs, General, under which nothing happens.

[Guerrero Paz] Unfortunately, the guerrillas, those who have taken up arms, do not accept them. What better opportunity than the one that they were given under the last administration to dialogue and achieve peace, and we got nowhere. They categorically reject the serious proposal that the government is making to them because they are not interested.

[Amat] The guerrillas said a few hours ago about President Barco's peace proposal that it is a peace plan "as if we were asking for peace, when you actually are; as if we were defeated, and we are not."

[Guerrero Paz] There are no winners or losers in a peace program. The point is for the country to regain peace and tranquillity so that it can find its destiny. I don't believe that we should think exclusively in terms of who wins and who loses, because the loser here is Colombia, its people. How are we going to be able to find our destiny and develop our resources unless we have peace and tranquillity?

[Amat] If the guerrillas do not turn in their arms, and they are not, and if the government through the military does not accept the dialogue, what is going to happen with the guerrillas? How can they be done away with?

[Guerrero Paz] Well, by fighting them, because there is no other choice. If they do not want dialogue, if they do not want peace, if they want to impose their ideas by force of arms, then we have to fight them.

The dilemma is very simple. Tirofijo is telling the country that they are using arms to take power for themselves. The rest of the Colombian people have to tell them in response whether we are going to allow them to keep on using arms and to come to power through violence or whether we are going to say "no" and defend what is ours, because we choose our leaders and representatives and we are not going to let them bully us and take from us what is ours.

[Amat] So you see no reason for the peace and dialogue commissions?

[Guerrero Paz] I support all of the efforts that are being made to achieve peace, and if a sincere, good-faith and candid dialogue is the way, then it is welcome. How can we not want peace? I'm as much of a Colombian as you and I have the same longing to live in a country of peace and tranquillity, so that my children and my children's children can enjoy a country as marvelous as Colombia and not live with the permanent anguish of rampant, defiant violence.

[Amat] What is going to be done about the guerrillas who are holding 17 policemen? Are there going to be negotiations with them? What is going to happen?

[Guerrero Paz] I disagree: They have been kidnaped, they have been deprived of their freedom and carried off. The government has a perfectly clear and consistent policy on this. Let's allow events to run their course. I cannot get ahead of events that could take place tomorrow.

[Amat] General, you have several audiences tonight. People from the guerrillas are watching and listening to you. What would you say to them?

[Guerrero Paz] Accept peace. Seek and work for peace and greatness for Colombia instead of defacing the image that we Colombians ought to have overseas, because we have been given the best part of South America.

Meta Department Councilwoman Wounded in Attack
PA0611181588 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0100 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] Luz Leon, Patriotic Union (UP) councilwoman for Meta Department, was seriously wounded today during an attack in Villavicencio in which her husband, Parmenides Cuenca, was killed. The murderers have not yet been identified.

12 Killed in Recent Wave of Violence
PA0611190288 Paris AFP in Spanish 0323 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Text] Bogota, 5 Nov (AFP)—Civilian and military spokesmen have reported that at least 12 people—including leftist activists, guerrillas, and military personnel—have died as a result of the wave of violence gripping Colombia.

The most serious incident took place in Arauquita, Arauca Department, eastern Colombia, when three Patriotic Union [UP] activists were killed. A civic strike was declared to protest the killing, which the local mayor said was the work of Army counterinsurgency troops. The mayor, Amparo Lopez, who is also a UP member, told the Caracol radio network that a survivor reported that the three males—including a young elementary school student—were tortured and savagely mutilated in Mataoscura Corregimiento.

Along with the residents of neighboring communities, Arauquita's 10,000 inhabitants demanded that a government commission and a representative of the attorney general's office investigate the murder. They also kept the victims from being buried.

The mayor's statements apparently contradict the report by the Reveiz Pizarro Battalion, which mentioned the elimination of three guerrillas of the National Liberation Army (ELN, Castro-ite) in Mataoscura as well as the seizure of war materiel and propaganda.

Meanwhile, in El Castillo, Meta Department, also in the east, hired gunmen seriously wounded UP Councilwoman Luz Leon and killed her husband, Parmenides Cuenca.

The 3d Brigade reported, moreover, that two guerrillas and one soldier were killed in Bolivar, Cauca Department, southern Colombia, during an operation in which an extremist meeting was foiled and important documents, armament, supplies, and goggles were seized.

In Taraza, Antioquia Department, in the northwest, one soldier was killed and three were wounded during fighting with a group of members of the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board (CNG), the umbrella organization of the insurgent movements.

Finally, in downtown Chiquinquirá, Boyacá Department, some 150 km from Bogotá, a policeman and three civilians were shot to death in a confusing incident during a routine search.

Clandestine Radio Reports 1 Nov Ambush
PA0411214588 (Clandestine) Radio Patria Libre in Spanish to Colombia 0030 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] Attention Meta Department: On 1 November, the media reported the ambush by the FARC's 31st Front against 6th Brigade troops stationed in Villavicencio. In this ambush, the Army sustained 46 casualties—12 officers and 9 soldiers were killed; 24 soldiers and a captain were wounded.

Regarding this action by FARC guerrillas, government spokesmen have said this is a terrorist action. As for the situation in Alto Ariari region—where the FARC ambush took place—we have received the reports made at the Forum for Peace recently held in [words indistinct] Tolima. The Defense Ministry's gigantic operation against the FARC secretariat was denounced at this forum. Four brigades stationed in Melgar, Ibagué, Neiva, and Villavicencio are participating in the government troops' offensive. The troops ambushed by the FARC 31st Front are from the 7th Brigade stationed in Villavicencio, Meta Department.

Government troops are advancing toward [words indistinct], toward one of the ways to get access to the FARC headquarters known as Casa Verde. Defense Minister Rafael Samudio recently threatened to eliminate Casa Verde. The troops are advancing through four points: Purificación, El Prado, and Villarica, in the eastern [words indistinct]; through the Colombia municipality, northern Huila; through Cabrera, southern Cundinamarca; and through the Ariari and Meta regions.

The FARC 31st Front ambush against the 7th Brigade was carried out in one of the four points that are part of FARC's goal against the [words indistinct]. This leaves the government [words indistinct] statements [words indistinct], saying the FARC action was a terrorist action. On the contrary, this is a genocide action covered in the most elementary manuals of military tactics and strategies. This action is part of a military counteroffensive by the Simon Bolívar Guerrilla Coordinating Board to counteract the government troop attacks against FARC in eastern Colombia.

One of the guerrilla forces' objectives makes [words indistinct], to provide aid to the wounded, to respect their lives, to take others as prisoners, and to return them safe and sound to the human rights commissions. By releasing prisoners of war, the Simon Bolívar Guerrillas Coordinating Board has shown its attitude and willingness to [words indistinct]. Meanwhile, the military command's intransigency and stubbornness shows that President Barco's government prefers war to the life and dignity of his subordinates.

Radio Station 'Virtually' Destroyed by Bomb
PA0511011588 Bogota Inravisión Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] A Sincelejo radio station was virtually destroyed by a bomb that was left inside the station. Flor Angela Nunez, a secretary at Transmisora Sucre, recounts what happened:

[Begin Nunez recording] At about 0930, a woman arrived with a package that she placed on a table in the reception room. A youth of about 18 sat next to the package. The woman said she wanted to place an ad. When I told her the price, she told me to ask the manager for a discount. After I went to the manager's office to tell him about it, I saw that she started running. I looked back at the package; it was on the floor and it exploded. I was hit by glass from the windows. [end recording]

*** Policeman Cited on Defense of Puerto Wilches**
56002001B Barranquilla EL HERALDO in Spanish 6 Oct 88 p 7

[Interview with police officer Hubert Enrique by Yamid Amat and Maria Isabel Rueda; date, place not given]

[Text] The following is the text of the Caracol interview with a policeman who defended Puerto Wilches, which was attacked early yesterday morning by the guerrillas.

Yamid Amat: Please tell us what happened, Officer. What did you see?

Policeman: Well, a band of people from FARC, combined with the National Liberation Army, staged a raid last night at midnight. After attacking the station, they launched about six rockets and completely destroyed the building and some nearby homes.

Maria Isabel Rueda: Were you inside the police station?

Policeman: Yes, we were all there. We were in the station, and our good relations with the town helped us. There were 19 of us officers, and there were about 300 guerrillas. All of the personnel here are from the counter-guerrilla force, so we took our places; we have a clear-cut defense plan for the town.

Yamid Amat: In other words, officer, 19 men successfully defended Puerto Wilches for 6 hours?

Policeman: Yes, we defended it, and none of our personnel were wounded. There was property damage yes, but it can be repaired.

Yamid Amat: At no time did the guerrillas take over the town because the police repelled the attack?

Policeman: They came to carry off what they had to carry off, but they did not succeed. We took our positions at the strategic spots and defended the Caja Agraria [farm-loan bank] and the Banco Popular, which is the most important thing here.

Yamid Amat: In other words, you risked your lives for the homeland, the city, the citizenry, the little town, to prevent its takeover....

Policeman: Yes, that's right....

Maria Isabel Rueda: And when did reinforcements arrive from the military?

Policeman: At about 0630 hours. From what we ourselves were able to see and from what very reliable sources have told us, some seven of them were wounded and two, the ones who were in the town square, were killed. They treated one of them there but he apparently died on the way back.

Yamid Amat: Officer, what do you think of the guerrillas?

Policeman: Well, I think they're a bunch of bandits, cowards, because they murdered a woman who had nothing to do with what was going on. Knowing that we were the ones who were handling the situation, these lowlife cowards killed a woman, whose relatives are now grieving for her. We still have the town, though. The town is ours, and we defended it.

Yamid Amat: How long have you been with the police?

Policeman: I've been a policeman for 5 years.

Yamid Amat: And what do you feel when you put on your uniform?

Policeman: It's a source of pride. It's an honor that not everyone can have. Being a policeman is an honor that carries a price.

Maria Isabel Rueda: Are you an expert in counterguerrilla warfare too?

Policeman: I'm an expert in counterguerrilla warfare. I graduated from Bogota. I also saw action in the takeover of the Palace of Justice and other takeovers back then, and the experience has helped me quite a bit.

Maria Isabel Rueda: What does it mean to be an expert in counterguerrilla warfare? What do you know that another police officer doesn't?

Policeman: A nonexpert always gets very nervous and uses up his ammunition. You have to control your trigger finger. It's a question of self-control. Our lives depend on it.

Yamid Amat: What wounds did you receive?

Policeman: None. When we began to put into practice what we had learned, some colleagues got cut with glass. Just one had that happen. Everything turned out as we had expected for the rest of us.

Maria Isabel Rueda: At any point in what must have been a long night for you, did you feel cornered or very threatened, in the sense that you would not be able to defend the town, or did you have the situation under control at all times?

Policeman: We had the situation under control at all times. We even went so far as to put on some music for them, to sing them the national anthem, the police anthem and shout "it's our town." This is something they can't do, because the only thing they say when they're out there is "surrender." When they said that to us, we sang them the national anthem; there was an incredible spirit in our trenches....

Yamid Amat: How could you, in the thick of an attack, put on music and sing the national anthem and the police anthem?

Policeman: We have experience in this, and it's what we do to keep the situation under control. Some of our colleagues get very nervous....

Yamid Amat: Do you know the police anthem?

Policeman: I know the police anthem, the patriotic pledge and the code of police ethics....

Yamid Amat: Officer, would you like to sing a little bit of that anthem for me, as you did just a while ago to the guerrillas?

Policeman: Well, the patriotic pledge goes: "Colombia my country, I carry you with love in my heart. I believe in your destiny and I hope to always see you great, respected, and free. In you we see all that is dear to me: your glories, your beauty, my home, the grave of my elders, my beliefs, the fruit of my efforts, the fulfillment of my dreams. To be your policeman is an honor that carries a price." This is what we sang here to make them mad. So they kept on shooting and shooting, and we didn't fire back. We only took aim at the stationary targets that they gave us. We had ammunition and we were prepared.

Maria Isabel Rueda: Tell us what happened from the time that you were attacked. What was your highly successful strategic deployment like?

Policeman: The first thing that we did after arriving in the town was to put together the plan for defending it and the police station, and we began to take our positions. We took our positions at the spots that the official

in charge, the commander, indicated; we spread out and we waited for them every night. Last night they arrived, and it all turned out just fine for us....

Maria Isabel Rueda: But did you know that the town was going to be attacked?

Policeman: Well, we more or less had signs. And then fortunately they changed the commanding officer on us just yesterday. We got one who is a commander through and through, a counter guerrilla man through and through.

Yamid Amat: In other words, officer, it was not really a surprise attack. You had information that they were planning something.

Policeman: That's the first thing that they emphasize to us. Until that time comes, we keep thinking about security and watch out for the enemy.

Yamid Amat: Officer, besides your love of Colombia and your respect for your uniform, what thrills us most listening to you is to think that you policemen were singing the anthem that you just mentioned while you were defending Wilches. Officer, do you remember the stanza that you all sang?

Policeman: There's one that goes: "Counter guerrilla for my homeland is the cry of war in the mountains, and in the jungle the blade of my sword shines like a beam from a light. I devote my spirit to the peace that I love. Liberty and justice are what I acclaim."

Yamid Amat: Were these stanzas that you all sang in unison?

Policeman: We sang to them in unison, and on a sound system that we have here we played music from Valledupar, all sorts of music. That infuriated them, and when they heard it, they started shooting more, and we just waited. Where we saw a flash we aimed and fired. We had the situation completely under control.

Yamid Amat: Do you remember the stanza of the national anthem that you sang?

Policeman: I remember this from the police anthem (sings): "Onward guardians of order, courage, valor, dignity. Safeguard that right of man. Let liberty be enjoyed with order. Safeguard that right of man. Let liberty be enjoyed with order. If duty calls and you show prudence, the scales of justice will stand; a citizen equal before the law, the hallowed rights of the home as a father you must protect, and may God and country reward you...."

Yamid Amat: Officer, believe me when I say that we here at Caracol and all our listeners are very proud to have officers like you protecting us. We are really proud and excited that there are men like you who love this country, as you have shown us you do.

Policeman: I'm not the only one who loves it; so do all of my colleagues who were with me in the trenches when we repelled the attack for 7 hours. We did all that because we want to see this country always exalted and free. They didn't like what we shouted at them. We told them that were "slaves of the Russians," that they were killing so that Fidel Castro could govern. They answered us and got more furious. They told us: "Boys, surrender. You're going to get yourselves killed like jerks." We replied: "This rifle is brand new. We're breaking it in, like you. Come and get it." That's when one of their girls screamed: "Comrade, they got me...Comrade, pull me out...get me out of here." One of the ones at the end of the railway cars was also injured in the attack. They brought everything. We kept our spirits up by shouting dirty words at the women, but so what. At that point we needed to be in control of everything, and we always were.

Yamid Amat: Officer, we are told that most of your colleagues are young. How old are you?

Policeman: I just turned 23. There are 20- and 21-year-old boys here. Even so, they responded well; thanks to their experience, they responded very well. It's another experience that they have under their belts. We're going to move ahead, because under no circumstances am I in favor of them coming back whenever they want.

Maria Isabel Rueda: Officer, if you're 23, at what age did you join the police?

Policeman: I joined when I turned 18. I reported in Cali. I always wanted to feel the pride of being in the military, of being a policeman, so I reported and I'm serving my country one more day with integrity and pride.

Yamid Amat: Officer, we chose to keep your name confidential. But if you would like to reveal it, we and all Colombians would like to know who this 23-year-old lad is who defended Wilches along with other lads, who routed the guerrillas, who is handing over a free city right now, who saved its people, protected its property and feels so proud, as you have told us, to wear his uniform and be a Colombian.

Policeman: I'm not hiding anything. My name is Hubert Enrique. I've always loved the wild country. Always, and this is why I've already taken three counter guerrilla warfare courses, and if I can take another, I will because I've always liked them.

Maria Isabel Rueda: You told us that you saw action during the takeover of the Palace of Justice. How did that happen? What did you do?

Policeman: Well, the role that I played in the takeover of the Palace of Justice was on the spur of the moment. We went in. It was the station that was near there. We entered through the rear of the basement. We found the guards dead. So on the spur of the moment, because we had little experience, we went in and controlled the strategic part so that our colleagues could gradually take over floor by floor, and we managed it.

Editorial Derides Group of Eight Meeting
PA0611005588 Bogota LA PRENSA in Spanish
31 Oct 88 p 6

[Editorial: "The Group of Eight's Reversal"]

[Text] A skeptic once said the only thing that resulted from a meeting of Latin American heads of state was "choosing the site for the next meeting." That was proven at the recent meeting in Punta del Este. Perhaps the ambiguity of some of the commitments stems from the fact that some of the heads of state have a shaky hold on power for various reasons.

To begin with, the eight are seven because, with good judgment, they voted to take the protective measure of isolating Panama's strongman from the group because he is implicated in unholy activities. In addition, De la Madrid will leave power in a little over a month and Alfonsin is only 8 months away from doing the same. President Sarney's term has been shortened by the new Brazilian Constitution and Sanguinetti will soon get a successor. Finally, Alan Garcia and Virgilio Barco are holding on to the reins of power but irresolutely trying to bust the tough bronco of subversion.

The summit declaration is the usual litany of proposals and phrases that have been repeated ad nauseam in reports and recommendations by organizations and symposiums. Its text does not contain a single, concrete suggestion requiring immediate implementation. It looks as if the heads of state were imbued with the "manana" spirit with which Latin American actions are characterized. Reading it, one gets the impression that our peoples do not have a single need that requires an immediate solution from their rulers.

The communique is a disappointment with regard to the foreign debt and Latin American integration. After reading it, one has the feeling that we have taken a step backward. A few years ago in Cartagena, and at the previous meeting in Acapulco, a timid call was made for the continent to take solidaristic, joint action. A few days ago, it was decided to leave specific recommendations to the finance ministers. In the case of meetings of heads of state, it is usual for the ministers to make the recommendations in advance in order for those who have supreme responsibility for their people to make the final decisions.

At Punta del Este, the process was reversed; unless, of course, the plan is for agreements reached by the ministers to be finalized by the presidents 1 year later.

Integration was treated with the indifference with which one treats a matter that can wait, overlooking the fact that the total integration of the 12 EEC member countries is just 4 years away and that the process of integration of the United States with Canada and Japan with Southeast Asia is already under way. With Latin America not united, with a foreign debt that may extend like a nefarious specter beyond the year 2000 if no immediate solution is found, and with the prospects that the aforementioned groups will engage in collective protectionism, our economies will grow weaker and weaker with the resulting social and political imbalances. However, other than expressing good intentions, the heads of state did not agree on any concrete formulas.

As President Barco said before the meeting, it was not that important for him to leave Colombia at a time when it is facing probably the worst crisis since 9 April 1948. Following the lifting of censorship, reading the newspapers makes one's spirit sink. According to the Antioquia governor, there is a "state of war" in Uraba where—the Defense Minister said—over 60 guerrillas and 26 soldiers were killed. Two-thirds of the country is without power because of the guerrillas' sabotage. Bridges have been destroyed in Cordoba, Cesar, Huila, and Antioquia Departments. The trans-Andean oil pipeline is not operating because parts of it were blown up by terrorists. And there is much more.

At any rate, with his usual kindness former President Lleras Restrepo justified the president's absence saying "his absence...would have caused a very serious impression about the country's situation." Not only was that impression created, it was created with a vengeance, with the aggravating element that it occurred in President Barco's absence.

Ecuador

Jan-Sep Oil Prices, Exports Announced
PA0111214788 Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO
in Spanish 23 Oct 88 p 2

[Summary] Official sources have reported that the Ecuadorian State Petroleum Corporation's crude oil exports between January and September sold for an average of \$13.17 per barrel. The sources added that the corporation sold 32,248,377 barrels of oil—70 percent of the total amount of oil sold during that period—through nine contracts.

The average price of oil sold through contracts was \$13.15 per barrel, which brought in a total of \$424,321,888. Furthermore, 494,547 barrels were sold on the spot market for \$6,895,995. In addition, the corporation paid 50 percent of its debt to Venezuela with 10,418,042 barrels, which represents 22.58 percent of its international transactions. The corporation also used 2,967,949 barrels—6.43 percent of its crude oil—for barter operations.

Labor Ministry Recognizes New Labor Union

PA0411211188 Quito Voz de Los Andes in Spanish
1200 GMT 4 Nov 88

[Text] The Labor Ministry has officially recognized the formation of a new labor union which will be named the Ecuadoran Central Organization of Classist Organizations for Workers' Unity [Confederacion Ecuatoriana de Organizaciones Clasistas Para la Unidad de los Trabajadores], or CEDOCUT. The organization is an updated extension of the Ecuadoran Central Organization of Classist Organizations, CEDOC.

The new labor union was reportedly recognized on 21 October by the labor and human resources minister. Froilan Asanza will serve as the union's president and Fausto Duran as its secretary general.

CEDOC President German Barragan said CEDOC has thus reached an agreement with its so-called socialist faction after 12 years of political division. CEDOC, which is affiliated with the Latin American Central Organization of Workers, CLAT, has legal status and its national directorate is legally recognized. As a result, its socialist faction had been participating in the United Workers' Front as a de facto organization.

Barragan also expressed concern over how the recognition of a new labor union such as CEDOCUT has led to a greater division of the Ecuadoran working class, saying that more attention has been paid to political pressure than to CEDOC's importance and its history of struggle. CEDOC will celebrate its 50th anniversary this month.

Paraguay

PDC Convention 'Unexpectedly' Authorized

PY0611214488 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
6 Nov 88 p 9

[Text] Yesterday the Interior Ministry unexpectedly decided to authorize the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) convention. PDC President Jose Maria Bonin was informed about the decision through a simple phone call made by a person who identified himself as Police Officer Viana of Asuncion Police Station No 1. The PDC authorities then investigated whether the information was correct.

Bonin said that just as there was no official document suspending the convention on two previous occasions, neither is there one now to authorize it. Everything was done over the phone.

In view of the government's decision, the PDC national leadership will meet at 1930 on Tuesday, 8 November at its headquarters to establish the place, time, and date for its convention. According to Bonin, "the only thing they requested is that we inform the Central Police Headquarters on the decision we reach on Tuesday regarding the place and date for the assembly."

In explaining how he learned about the authorization, Bonin said that he received a phone call late Friday night, 4 November, "from Officer Viana, of Police Station No 1, politely informing me that the government had reviewed its decision to suspend our convention and that we were authorized to hold it at any time." He added that he asked the police officer whether they had to hold the convention at the party headquarters or whether it could be held anywhere.

This question was answered yesterday morning by Viana himself. Bonin explained that "he phoned me to tell me that we could have it anywhere we wanted to." The PDC president concluded by stating that the phone call was a "nice surprise. We are satisfied because we will finally be able to hold our convention."

Police Try To Prevent Medical School 'Ceremony'

PY0411143288 Asuncion HOY in Spanish
4 Nov 88 p 19

[Text] Yesterday the police completely surrounded the Hospital de Clinicas and Medical School. For most of the morning they prohibited the entry of vehicles and musicians who had been invited to participate in a scheduled ceremony. The ceremony, entitled "Act about dignity, university, and university autonomy," was nevertheless held. Luis Reyes, dean of the Medical School, and Carlos A. Gonzalez, dean of the Law School of the Catholic University, were among those who attended. The policemen were armed for the first time with transparent shields, which those at the hospital made fun of.

Peru

'Record' Inflation Prompts New Adjustments

PY0411153888 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0417 GMT
4 Nov 88

[Text] Lima, 3 Nov (EFE)—On learning that the inflation rate in Peru has reached the unprecedented rate of 1,000 percent, the government of President Alan Garcia today admitted that a new economic adjustment will be implemented.

Peruvian authorities have reported that during the past 12 months the inflation rate reached 1,112 percent, the highest rate ever recorded.

Following the historical monthly "record" rate of 114 percent in September, which comes as a consequence of the economic adjustment implemented in the beginning of September, the cost of living in October rose by 41 percent. The inflation rate during the first 10 months of 1988 totals 932 percent.

Economists feel that the new adjustment which the government intends to implement will catapult the inflation rate to 2,000 percent by the end of 1988.

According to Peruvian Prime Minister Armando Villanueva, the government, although it is very skeptical, hopes that the inflation rate will decrease during next few months, but without setting any deadline.

Villanueva had to rectify a statement he made on Monday, and has now admitted that the government will soon readjust the economic program that was implemented in September.

The minister did not explain the scope of the adjustment. He only said that it will not be traumatic for the people, a clear reference to the effects of the September program that reduced by 40 percent the consumers' capabilities, as was reported today by the specialized magazine ANALISIS LABORAL.

The main objectives of the September program were to recover reserves and to reduce inflation and the public deficit. But according to the experts none of these objectives have been achieved.

Peruvian media and economists feel that the government must resort to a devaluation of approximately 80 percent, which will inflate prices to a similar percentage, and other additional measures, such as the increase in interest rates to foster domestic savings.

Economists feel that the government must increase wages in accordance with inflation, because the generalized impoverishment will harm the market and will lead many enterprises to bankruptcy, the newspaper LA OPINION reported.

During 1988 the real purchasing value of salaries has dropped by 60 percent, which has prompted a reduction of the economic activity due to the drop in demand to around 10 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

If this tendency persists, the "GDP" will probably drop by 17 percent by the end of 1988, and the country will return to the levels of 1957, according to the experts consulted by LA OPINION.

State of Emergency Extended for 60 Days
PY0511134788 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish
1030 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] The state of emergency has been extended for 60 days in Lima and Callao, as well as in the Departments of Apurimac, Huancavelica, San Martin, and in several provinces of Ayacucho, Pasco, and Huanuco.

A state of emergency has also been declared in the district of Curinga, Cochabamba Province, where individual rights are hereby suspended.

20 'Subversives' Kill 2 Government Workers
PY0711021588 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish
2204 GMT 6 Nov 88

[Excerpt] Lima, 6 Nov (AFP)—Local metropolitan police sources have reported that alleged subversives killed two officials of the Development Corporation and Electro-Centro in Pasco Department, in the Central Andean region.

Engineers David Lopez, 32, a supervisor of the Pasco Development Corporation, and Alberto Calixto, 36, an Electro-Centro executive, were inspecting high-voltage towers when were shot dead by approximately 20 hooded individuals on 5 November. [passage omitted]

Police Detain Traffickers, Seize Chemicals
PY0511135488 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish
1030 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Text] The Peruvian Investigative Police (PIP) have detained five drug traffickers and confiscated 7.5 kg of marijuana and 145 containers of sulphuric acid, which is used in manufacturing cocaine paste. These operations were carried out at the Ancon and Corcona checkpoints.

PIP agents were making routine checks at the Ancon checkpoint and discovered several kilograms of marijuana inside a bag that a Piura enterprise bus was carrying.

Venezuela

Lusinchi, General on Border Incident
PA0511215888 Caracas Venezolana de Television
Canal 8 in Spanish 0000 GMT 5 Nov 88

[Statements by President Jaime Lusinchi and General Humberto Camejo Arias, military chief of Tachira and Apure, at the Miraflores Palace in Caracas; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Lusinchi] Friends: I have invited several Caracas media representatives here today. Time did not allow us to invite media representatives from the country's interior. I invited them to talk about certain events that have occurred in the past few days. These events have evolved in ways I do not hesitate to describe as dangerous. One of these events had to do with the deployment of tanks from Fort Piona to La Vineta, a residence on Carmelitas Street where the Interior Ministry is located. Of course, this problem is not as prominent as the other event, which we have explained sufficiently. Anyway, an investigation has been ordered to clarify this matter. I would like to ask you not to discuss this matter during this meeting, not because it does not deserve reporters' attention, but because the other incident is very special and has attracted the people's attention.

I brought to Caracas General Humberto Camejo Arias, who heads the division stationed at Tachira and Apure. Gen Camejo is very familiar with the situation and the El Amparo events. I asked him to discuss this with reporters. Gen Camejo thus presented evidence and a number of very interesting reports. Considering the manner in which his report was received, that there are constantly new interpretations of the events, and that there seems to exist an international consensus to definitively clarify these events, I proposed to the reporters that there be a news conference with the Miraflores Palace reporters. Since these were at hand, they were not only suitable for our purpose, but they were also the country's leading and most serious reporters. We know the media choose the very best reporters. I do not intend to diminish your work, but I am trying to be realistic.

Gen Camejo is a distinguished officer of our Armed Forces with an impeccable professional career. He has worked in a particularly distinguished manner. He is an upright and honorable man, a committed democrat, an honest man. He has been in the Apure region 3 and 1/2 years. I have been able to confirm that he is very well respected and appreciated by every segment of society. His word is reliable. As the highest Armed Forces authority in that area, he can report on the regrettable events at El Amparo.

As president, I have found the reports I have received to be truthful. Gen Camejo will accurately relay these reports to you. We did not hold a news conference with Gen Camejo before because we wanted to avoid interfering with the official military inquiry. The situation, however, took on such an air that we could wait no longer. This is why, although Gen Camejo had an appointment at San Cristobal this afternoon, I asked him to stay at the presidential palace and talk with you. This can easily be confirmed and you can see at once that nothing is being concealed here. We called Gen Camejo to Caracas last night, as we have done two or three times, and asked him to join the defense, interior, and information ministers, and myself in this meeting with media representatives.

I think we now have to show our faces, so to speak. We cannot let things be distorted any more, much less let somebody think we are concealing the truth. I am a modest man. I have always been very careful in handling reports about myself. I am not like the politicians who usually brag. I do not even like the word I. When I refer to myself, I say we because I have been educated in political and social concepts that have more to do with society as a whole than with individuals. This is why I am not inclined to speak in the first person and dislike an individualistic stance. At this moment, however, I will say that Jaime Lusinchi will not mar his reputation by concealing a crime.

I will also say nobody has the right to cast doubts on my word and honor regarding what I have reported to the country according to my understanding of this incident.

This is my word, [based on what] I know as of this moment. If, according to the inquiry being conducted by military courts in all honesty and in accordance with the law, a different, partial or total, interpretation of the facts emerges, then as a magistrate, I pledge to the Venezuelan people that I will dispense the necessary punishment. I think I am entitled to ask the Venezuelan people to trust me. I am an upright man and have never been a liar or a charlatan. I also take this opportunity to say I cannot even accept rumors. But let us not divert our attention to personal matters.

Gen Camejo will now provide an explanation to you. Then you can ask him questions to clarify those aspects you deem necessary to keep the country informed as best as possible. I also take this opportunity to express my deep condolences to the victims' relatives, no matter if these victims were guerrillas, Colombians, Venezuelans, or Chinese. They are humans beings. Of course their relatives cry for them. I am willing to help these families, who most of the time are not to be blamed for what some family members do. I have been a political combatant for many years. I led the struggle against dictatorship. I conspired against Perez Jimenez and the dictatorship and worked actively every day for 5 and 1/2 years and held important posts in Democratic Action's clandestine leadership. I never told my family where I was going. They never learned of my activities because there is a golden rule in clandestine struggles: Everyone must pay for what he does and he should not tell even his closest relatives. I say this to prevent a misinterpretation of this matter. I will meet with the relatives of those young men who were killed. I promise, as head of state and as a human being, to help these families, because they will always miss those who have been killed. I make this promise in the name of the Venezuelan people. This is all I have to tell you. Now Gen Camejo will speak to you. He is, as I told you, an upright and reliable officer of our Armed Forces, which guarantees our democratic process and are committed to defend freedom and human rights, as they have demonstrated in these 30 years of democracy. I ask permission to leave so as not to interfere with what Gen Camejo will tell you and what you might ask him. Thank you for the time you have given us. This matter should not be delayed any further. Thank you.

[Camejo] [Passage omitted] We have received much information, but it would take too long to list it here. However, I want you to know that throughout this month [as heard] we have received reports that made us realize that it was necessary to carry out operations to protect the border, as we have done.

On 21 October, President Lusinchi happened to be visiting the Tachira region. On that day I informed him and the acting defense minister that we were carrying out an operation in the area because 16 persons traveling in one or two boats were going to infiltrate Venezuelan territory to kidnap a rancher, a retired Venezuelan Army colonel. The president was informed of this operation.

But the operation became unnecessary because the boat in which the alleged subversive elements, or irregular forces, or whatever you may want to call them, were traveling had been stopped at the Guardulio Island border protection post. In connection with this, we have checked the registry book listing the boats that traveled through that area. We have a photocopy of the pertinent registry book pages that list the boats that travel between Guadaquito and Amparo. The original book is currently being held by a military court. The registry book states that the boat in question, "La Flor de la Candelaria," a white boat with a Suzuki motor, serial No 824051, was searched. The boat belongs to a Colombian citizen whose last name is Colonel.

The Suzuki motor found in that boat is the same motor that was found in the boat involved in Saturday's incident, and seven of the people who were in the boat at the border post were also involved in the Guafitas incident. [passage omitted]

It has been said the casualties were all Venezuelans who had no problems. I want to state that many of them were Colombian. There is nothing wrong with them being Colombian, because there are many Colombians and Venezuelans in the border area who live and work peacefully. So Colombian nationality is not the issue. The issue is that some people want to say that all of them were Venezuelans. What is the case is that many of them had two sets of citizenship papers.

It has also been said they had no police record. However, I want to tell you many of them had police records in both Venezuela and Colombia. [passage omitted]

We have received telephone reports from the DAS [Colombia's Administrative Department of Security] and other state security organizations revealing that some of the casualties had a police record for allegedly being members of the ELN [Colombia's National Liberation Army]. One of the casualties has been identified as the right-hand man of the personal doctor of Carlos Toledo Plata, the M-19 leader who was killed in Arauca. We have that information. Another casualty has been identified as a FARC. He also has been accused of cattle rustling. [passage omitted]

*** COPEI Strength in Polls Seen Weakening**
33480012a Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish
26 Sep 88 p D-6

[Text] The latest poll taken by Aponte and Associates in August reveals that, whereas the polarization between CAP [Carlos Andres Perez] and Fernandez continues, the other political presences are still growing and stealing space from the AD [Democratic Action] and COPEI parties, insofar as the small vote is concerned. MAS [Movement Toward Socialism] shows up with 13.7 percent, and the small parties share 18.3 percent of the favorable voting intentions.

According to the most recent opinion study made during August of this year by the firm Aponte and Associates in 10 of the country's cities, it may be claimed that Venezuelan electoral preferences continue to favor the electoral option embodied by the Democratic Action party's presidential candidate (41.4 percent), compared with a favorable rating for the candidacy of Eduardo Fernandez, to whom those same results give 30.5 percent of the polled population's electoral preferences.

The methodology used is based on the system of random interviews held in locations with sufficient numbers of people, polling a universe of 1,845 individuals. Men and women over age 18 of all social classes registered to vote in the cities of Caracas, Maracaibo, Ciudad Bolivar, Ciudad Guayana, the Barcelona-Puerto La Cruz axis, Cumana, Valencia, Maracay, Barquisimeto, and San Cristobal were selected.

Polling was taken between 16 and 30 August, evaluating, besides the preference of each person interviewed, his or her knowledge of the candidates, intention toward the legislative vote, and alternate options in case the chosen candidate did not run in the elections. Those preferences were also gauged based on the age, sex, and social class of those queried.

A description of the political atmosphere at that time, based on the results of the measurement, warrants our claiming that the electoral desires of Venezuelans gave a preference of 41.4 percent to CAP, in comparison with 30.5 percent awarded to the COPEI candidate, Eduardo Fernandez, and 5.8 percent to Teodoro Petkoff. Mrs Ismenia de Villalba, the URD [Democratic Republican Union] candidate, is favored with a rating of 4.4 percent, while the "other" segments show up with 9.2 percent, and 8.7 percent of those polled claimed not to know their preference.

A hypothetical random exercise with the opinions of sectors not associated with the official policy and the government party would allow us to learn that there is a sentiment opposing the CAP-AD option which, in an "imaginary plebiscite," would total 49.9 percent of all the voting intentions polled, precluding any possible exercise of hegemony. The opposition in this country totals nearly half of the political universe.

Legislative Revolution

Whereas the measurement made to inquire what the vote would be with a view toward the presidential election warrants the conclusion that the polarization is obvious and definitive (both candidacies share nearly 71 percent of the voting intentions), the tendencies shown regarding the legislative vote allow for a newer and fuller assessment. In this area, the intention to vote both for the party and for its candidate does not appear so consolidated.

In both AD and COPEI ratings, one observes results far lower than those accorded their candidates. The AD differential is 31 percent, that of COPEI is 23.8 percent; these are in contrast to that of MAS, which exceeds the vote of its candidate by 13.7 percent. The vote for Mrs Villalba is 5.3 percent. The "other" sectors receive 18.3 percent, and 6.4 percent of those polled claimed not to know for whom they would vote. The presence of a scattered, fragmented opposition is more evident here.

This must have been influenced by the malaise caused by "plankitis" in parties such as AD and COPEI, and the undemocratic and markedly excluding rules that became evident in both processes, as well as the constant demand from the parties' rank and file for new participatory mechanisms in the selection of their representatives.

If that small voting intention could be consolidated, this scattered, fragmented opposition would convoke 37.3 percent of the entire legislative presence, not including COPEI's 23.8 percent. If this were achieved, both desires would then represent 61.1 percent of the total universe of an imaginary Congress which, with a good exercise of maturity, might prove to be the entity overseeing the executive branch.

Women Prefer CAP

An evaluation of the indicators pertaining to the AD candidate backs the claim that those polled in sector C and women are Carlos Andres Perez' most constant supporters. His lowest preference rating lies among young people between ages 23 and 28 (35 percent), and is higher among new voters, increasing as the oldest age bracket recorded, namely 60, is approached, with indicators very close to 45 percent.

Between February and August, the AD candidate's ranking in polls taken by this firm underwent moderate variations, ranging between a rating of nearly 50 percent for February, a subsequent 40-percent drop in April, a resumed upward pace in May, June, and July, and a return in August to the 41 percent currently shown by the latest study.

Perez is still a widely known candidate with records of mention (an evaluation of general familiarity with the candidates among those polled) all exceeding 50 percent, with peaks of 60.8 percent in cities such as Caracas, Maracaibo, Valencia, Maracay, and San Cristobal. The same measurement, made on the basis of age, sex, and social level variables, reveals a knowledge of the candidate on the part of between 97 and 99 percent of those polled.

A "Standard" Measurement

Insofar as the COPEI candidate is concerned, his indicators are almost generally shown as a straight line on the 32 percent margin. His preference among classes A, B, and C, is 28 percent, and in classes D and E rises to the

32 percent line. Preferences among male and female voters appear similar, with 31 percent, as do the preference ratings by age among the 17-22 and 23-29 year brackets (30 percent); they undergo a slight rise in the 29-40 year category, with 33 percent, then decline to 29 percent among voters over 41.

The large vote conduct favoring Fernandez since the February polls is marked by contrast. In the measurement for that month, he ranked under 30 percent, with a rise to 35 percent in the poll taken during March. April and May showed a decline to below the March record; in June he returned to the 35 percent peak, declining to 30.5 percent in August.

The candidate's total spontaneous mention favors him in nearly all the items evaluated, with figures between 96 and 98 percent, accrediting him with a familiarity among the universe polled that is quite favorable to his election. The uniform perception of Fernandez among those polled, generally showing no significant variation, is noteworthy.

The Other Candidates

That universe which the summary calls "other candidates" enables us to discover really strange expressions of electoral preferences among Venezuelans.

Edmundo Chirinos appears to benefit from a rating of 2.6 percent, followed by Vladimir Gessen and Andres Velasquez, with similar ratings of 1.6 percent. Jorge Olavarria, despite all his trauma, is rated in the polls with 1.3 percent of the large vote favorable intentions. In the event that the voter's preferred candidate does not run in the 4 December elections, Ismenia de Villalba would win the elections with 14.4 percent of all the votes.

That same phenomenon gives a favorable 13.5 percent vote to Eduardo Fernandez, while Petkoff would benefit with 13.4 percent of the votes which initially would not be for him. The same assessment would represent 5 percent for Velasquez, 3.4 percent for Gessen, and 2.9 percent for Olavarria. They are perceived as so much of an option that, in Ciudad Guayana and Ciudad Bolivar, Andres Velasquez receives 30.9 and 46.8 percent of the preference, respectively, on the same analysis chart.

Cause R, in the so-called small voting intention in urban centers such as Ciudad Guayana and Ciudad Bolivar, receives indicators of 13.8 and 12 percent, respectively. MAS receives 18.4 percent in Cumana, in contrast to the 56.3 percent favorable vote on the small ballot that the San Cristobal universe (126) declared that it would award to AD.

All measurements to date indicate that the core of opinion regarding an electoral decision in Venezuela is consolidated. As for the individual decision of each voter, the Aponte and Associates poll notes that 61.7 percent of those polled in August think that, regardless of

their electoral decision, CAP will win the elections, and 32.2 percent believe that Eduardo Fernandez will do so. The other candidates have ratings below 1 percent.

*** Air Force Purchases Used Mirage Aircraft**
33480012b Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS
in Spanish 6 Oct 88 p 2

[Text] All the FAV [Venezuelan Air Force] Mirage aircraft will have more powerful engines and electronic navigation and bombing equipment, including two, also old models, to be incorporated into the fleet following repairs.

Yesterday congressional sources associated with the military reported that "the Venezuelan Air Force will purchase only two French Mirage fighter-bomber planes to partially replace those that crashed in 1986 in a multiple accident. Nevertheless, the combat units will not be new, but rather of the same model that the country has on hand; however, they will be suitably repowered and modernized."

The purchase of the two planes is reportedly part of the package from the negotiations relating to the general repair of Venezuela's Mirage fleet, the cost of which is not known exactly. However, it is included in the 28 billion [bolivares] from the Armed Forces Global Re-equipment Plan that the military sector has been devising in recent years.

Improvement of the aircraft includes the installation of more powerful engines and modern electronic equipment for navigation and bombing as well as updating of the weapons, with a substantial increase in fire power and combat effectiveness.

According to the sources, the decision to carry out this important operation was made after a thorough study. The possibility of making expensive purchases of totally new equipment, such as U.S. F-14 fighter bombers, was precluded. The FAN [National Armed Forces] chose to take advantage of the programs for repowering, modernization, and correction of defects offered on a permanent basis by the French firm's home offices.

It is estimated that, upon completion of the work and incorporation of the two additional planes, Venezuela will confirm its supremacy among the Spanish-speaking Latin American countries insofar as the equipment and versatility of its Air Force is concerned. Nearly all the other countries on the subcontinent also have fleets

comprised of a mixture of U.S. and Mirage aircraft, but none of them has F-16 supersonic fighter bombers. Brazil, however, ranks on a different scale in any comparison, because it has one of the largest military aircraft industries outside the industrialized world.

*** Economic Deterioration Threatens Middle Class**
33480012c Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS
in Spanish 7 Oct 88 p 12

[Text] Inflation, devaluation, the shortage of public funds, and lack of liquidity are, in Marcel Granier's view, factors that have impoverished the Venezuelan middle class, whose aspirations for housing of its own are being thwarted every day.

The Venezuelan middle class, "exhausted and impoverished," is heading toward extinction because of various factors prevailing in the current economic situation. This conclusion was reached by the panel which examined the topic of the middle class and housing during the deliberations of the Third Housing Convention.

The panelists agreed that, in view of the high cost of housing, the middle class currently lacks access to housing, except that "of social interest."

Marcel Granier, the main speaker on the subject, remarked that the deterioration of the middle class is evident in all the indicators contributing to a definition of that social stratum.

"Basically, we can define the middle class in terms of education, occupation, income, and social prestige. We receive an education that gives us access to an occupation, which enables us to earn income, with which to purchase goods befitting our social status. These goods are, basically, schools for children, housing, a car, wholesome food, and entertainment."

Granier noted that, in the case of Venezuela, middle-class symbols have been disappearing because of the general deterioration in real income, devaluation, the shortage of public funds, the lack of credit, and the excessive rise in prices of certain goods. He said that the process of stifling the middle class has the following allies:

- Inflation, the fundamental result of which has been a general drop in real income, on the one hand, and speculation and the rising cost of housing, on the other;
- Devaluation, which has caused higher prices for imported goods, many of which are typical of the middle class: a car, tourism, newspapers, books, magazines, and household electrical appliances;
- The shortage of public funds, contributing to the decline in services traditionally subsidized or rendered free of charge by the state, such as education, health, security, and transportation, making it necessary to procure them from the private sector;

- Lack of liquidity, which hampers the purchase of housing, cars, and other goods, making them more expensive.

Granier claimed that the deterioration of the middle class will tend to worsen because of the adjustments that will necessarily occur during the coming months: exchange unification and rising interest rates. On the latter topic, he said that, whereas now one needs a monthly income of 15,000 bolivares to buy a house costing 500,000 bolivares, with a higher interest rate that monthly income will suffice only to purchase a property costing 200,000 bolivares.

"The leading sowers of poverty in Venezuela have been poor administration, inflation, devaluation, permissiveness, and unemployment. Only through a policy to stimulate, foster, and coordinate the efforts of private enterprise will the state succeed in combating those scourges effectively. It is therefore essential that the ground rules be clear cut and that productive activity be profitable for the business owner."

Granier's remarks were widely applauded by the convention attendees, and the members of the panel on the middle class and housing fully agreed with the opinions that he voiced.